

**P-IND-MCPV**

**The Environmental Authorisations (Scotland) Regulations 2018 (EASR)**

**Industrial Activities Permit Variation Form:**

**Operating a medium combustion plant**

Version 1.0

August 2025

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## How to use this industrial activity variation form

Use this form to apply to vary an existing permit that authorises the operation of a medium combustion plant (MCP).

You can apply for a single authorisation to cover multiple MCPs with a rated thermal input equal to or greater than 1 megawatt (MW) and less than 50 MW, operated by the same authorised person at the same proposed authorised place, provided the total net rated thermal input is less than 50 MW.

If the total net rated thermal input is 50 MW or more, you will need to apply for a schedule 20 combustion plant activity.

**Do not** use this form for:

* Reducing the geographical extent of the authorised place – you will need to apply for a surrender (in whole or in part).
* Reducing the number of regulated activities authorised by your permit – you will need to apply for a surrender (in whole or in part).
* Changing the authorised person of the existing permit – you will need to apply for a transfer (in whole or in part).

#### Additional information required

If your application includes variations to the activities defined under schedule 25 of EASR, please also complete Appendix 1: Energy efficiency.

## Before you apply

* Check your permit to identify the type of authorised activities (e.g. water, waste, industrial activities).
* Use the correct variation form for the type of activity you want to vary. For example, use the waste variation form to vary a waste permit activity, the water variation form to vary a water permit activity, or the appropriate variation form for other activities.
* Read the guidance for the industrial activity you wish to vary and/or add to your existing permit on the relevant activity specific page on our [website](https://www.sepa.org.uk/easr).
* Where you see the term ‘document reference’, enter the document reference(s) for the information you have provided. These must be submitted along with the completed form.
* For applications made with insufficient or inadequate information; we will return these to the applicant with an explanation of what additional information is required and may retain part of the application fee in accordance with our published charging scheme.

## Multiple activities under a single permit

We may authorise multiple activities under a single permit, but only if the activities are connected. Activities may be considered connected if they are:

* located at the same geographical location,
* part of the same project, or
* operationally linked.

If the activities are connected, you may apply for a variation of an existing permit to add new activities under one permit.

If the activities are not connected, you must submit a separate application for each activity.

## How to apply

**Digital application service:**

The quickest and easiest way to [apply is via our digital application service](https://www.sepa.org.uk/easr) on our website.

You will need to upload:

1. Completed variation form(s)
2. Completed activity form(s) if required
3. Any required supporting information

**Email/Post application:**

If you cannot apply using our digital application service, you can complete and submit an application via email or by post.

Your application must include the following:

1. A completed APP-GEN1 form
2. Completed variation form(s)
3. Completed activity form(s) if required
4. Any required supporting information

Email and postal addresses for submitting your application are included in the APP-GEN1 form.

You can download [APP-GEN1, activity forms and variation forms](https://www.sepa.org.uk/easr) from our website.

## Section 1 - Permit details

### 1.1 Permit reference

Please provide the reference of the permit you wish to vary.

| **Permit reference** (e.g. EAS/P/1234, PPC/B/1234567) |
| --- |
|  |

### 1.2 Authorised place details

Please provide the following information about the authorised place.

**Table 1: Authorised place details**

| **Question** | **Answer** |
| --- | --- |
| **Authorised place name** |  |
| **Authorised place address** |  |
| **Authorised place postcode** |  |
| **National Grid Reference (NGR)**  (At least 2 letters followed by 8 digits, e.g., AB 1234 6789. You can use our [SEPA NGR Tool](https://map.sepa.org.uk/ngrtool/) to find your NGR.) |  |

## Section 2 - About your proposed variation

### 2.1 Variation type

There are three types of variations: administrative, standard and substantial.

Please refer to our [Charging guidance](https://www.sepa.org.uk/regulations/authorisations-and-permits/charging-schemes/charging-schemes-and-summary-charging-booklets/) for examples and guidance on identifying the correct variation type.

To understand what qualifies as a substantial variation, please read our guidance [Identifying a substantial change variation](https://www.sepa.org.uk/easr).

If you need assistance in determining the correct variation type, please contact [ppcpermitting@sepa.org.uk](mailto:ppcpermitting@sepa.org.uk).

Please select the relevant box below to confirm the type of variation you are applying for.

**Administrative variation**   (complete Sections 2)

**Standard variation**

(complete Sections 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and Appendix 1(if required))

**Substantial variation**

(complete Sections 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and Appendix 1 (if required))

### 2.2 Non-technical summary

Please provide a non-technical summary of your application, including:

* A brief overview of the proposed variation.
* The type of variation (administrative, standard or substantial) and justify the reasons for this.
* If applicable, a description of any changes to authorised MCP, clearly indicating which plant these changes apply to.
* If applicable, details of all proposed MCP.
* If applicable, details of any new or modified processes and abatement.
* If applicable, the measures you will implement to control the main environmental emissions from the authorised place after the variation takes effect.

This summary may be published on our website as part of the public consultation process.

Ensure it is written in simple and plain language so that all members of the public can clearly understand the details of your application.

| **Document reference** |
| --- |
|  |

### 2.3 Proposed variation details

Please provide details about the changes you are requesting to the condition(s) of your permit (if applicable).

| **Document reference** |
| --- |
|  |

### 2.4 Location plan

If your application to vary a permit increases the boundary of the authorised place, please provide an updated location plan.

The location plan must:

1. Clearly outline and identify the location of the proposed authorised place.
2. Limit the proposed authorised place strictly to the extent of the activities.
3. Be based on an Ordnance Survey (OS) map.
4. Be clear and easy to read on an A4 page, avoiding unnecessary details.
5. Include a defined scale, the date it was created, a north direction indicator, and context such as roads and buildings.

| **Document reference** |
| --- |
|  |

### 2.5 Adding a new activity

Do you wish to add a new regulated activity to your existing permit?

Yes

No

If ‘Yes’, you will need to complete and submit an activity form for each activity you wish to add.

Activity forms are available on the relevant activity specific page on our [website](https://www.sepa.org.uk/easr).

Please provide the relevant document reference(s) here.

| **Document reference** |
| --- |
|  |

If your new activity will not impact on your existing MCP activity, you do not need to complete the rest of this form.

## Section 3 - Medium combustion plant (MCP)

### 3.1 MCP details

Please provide the details requested in Table 2 for each authorised and proposed MCP.

Each MCP must have a unique plant number (Plant No.) and be listed separately. If you need to include additional plants, please use a separate sheet.

When completing Table 2 please use the following descriptions of plant and fuel:

**Type of plant\*:**

* Diesel engine
* Gas turbine
* Dual fuel engine
* Other engine
* Other medium combustion plant

**Type of fuel\*\*:**

* Solid biomass
* Other solid fuels (e.g. coal, waste-derived fuel; please specify the type)
* Gas oil
* Liquid fuel other than gas oil (e.g. biodiesel; please specify the type)
* Natural gas
* Gaseous fuels other than natural gas (e.g. biogas, propane; please specify the type)

**Table 2: Medium combustion plant(s) details**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Plant no.**  (1,2,3, etc.) | **Manufacturer**  (make, model and serial number) | **Type of Plant\*** | **Start date of operation** | **Expected annual operating hours** | **Average load in use** | **Rated thermal input**  (MW) | **Type of fuel\*\*** | **Thermal input of each fuel if mixed** (MW) |
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### 3.2 Total rated thermal input (RTI)

Please provide the total rated thermal input for all MCP equal to or greater than 1 MW and less than 50 MW at the authorised place.

| **Total rated thermal input** |
| --- |
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### 3.3 Reduced or restricted RTI

If you are applying to reduce or restrict the RTI of plant that is already authorised, please provide your calculations or proposed restriction method.

Refer to [SEPA capacity and threshold guidance](https://www.sepa.org.uk/easr) for more information.

| **Document reference** |
| --- |
|  |

### 3.4 Existing plant

If you are adding existing plant (put into operation on or before 20 December 2018) to your permit, please provide evidence that the plant was put into operation on or before 20 December 2018. Use the plant number from Table 2 to identify which plant you are referring to.

| **Document reference** |
| --- |
|  |

### 3.5 Secondary abatement

Where the variation proposes changes to the secondary abatement or if you are adding an MCP with secondary abatement, please provide details. Describe the equipment, systems, or treatments that will be used to control, prevent, or minimise the likely air emissions from the MCP. Explain why these are the best options. Use the plant number from Table 2 to identify which plant you are referring to.

| **Document reference** |
| --- |
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### **3.6 Other processes**

If applicable, please provide details of or changes to any other processes or activities that are associated with or support the operation of the MCP. For example, waste handling, energy recovery, onsite fuel processing, backup fuel, chemical or fuel storage.

| **Document reference** |
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3.7 Emission limit values (ELV) exemptions

#### 3.7.1 ELV exemptions

Some MCP may be exempt from complying with emission limit values (ELVs).

EASR lists a number of exemptions, including but not limited to:

* MCP operating under a certain number of hours
* MCP using biomass as its main fuel
* MCP serving a public district heating network

For the full list of exemptions, please check the [activity webpage](http://www.sepa.org.uk/easr).

If the proposed variation includes changes to ELV exemptions, or if you are adding an MCP to your permit and it is exempt from complying with ELVs, please provide details.

| **Document reference** |
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#### 3.7.2 Plant operating less than 500 hours per year

You may request an exemption from compliance with the ELVs for:

* Existing plant (put into operation on or before 20 December 2018) that will not be operated for more than 500 hours per year (calculated as a rolling average over a period of 5 years).
* New plant (put into operation after 20 December 2018) that will not be operated for more than 500 hours per year (calculated as a rolling average over a period of 3 years).

If you would like to request an exemption from compliance with the ELVs and you are declaring that your plant(s) will operate for 500 hours or less per year, please provide the corresponding plant number(s) from Table 2 below.

| **Plant number(s)** |
| --- |
|  |

Note: You are declaring that your plant(s) will operate for 500 hours or less per year.

### 3.8 Standard Industry Classification (SIC)

The SIC system categorises businesses by industry sector in the UK. Your SIC code helps us understand the primary nature of your business. You can find the right SIC code using online search tools, such as the one available on Companies House website.

If your SIC code has changed, please provide the new code.

| **SIC code** |
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## Section 4 - Air emissions risk assessment

Please complete an appropriate risk assessment which screens emissions in accordance with our guidance on [air emission risk assessments](http://www.sepa.org.uk/easr). This assessment should demonstrate that emissions from all of your MCP(s) will not cause significant harm to the environment, human health, or designated sites (SSSI, SAC, SPA or RAMSAR site).

### 4.1 Habitats impact assessment

#### 4.1.1 Proximity Screening tool

Use the [Proximity Screening tool](https://www.apis.ac.uk/MCP-screening-tool) to screen for relevant ecological receptors. If no relevant ecological receptors are found by this tool, then the habitats impact assessment is concluded. Please provide the PDF generated by the tool.

| **Document reference** |
| --- |
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#### 4.1.2 SCAIL Screening tool

If any relevant ecological receptors are found by the Proximity Screening tool, an air emission risk assessment is required using the [SCAIL Combustion tool](https://www.sepa.org.uk/easr). Please provide the results of the assessment carried out in accordance with our guidance on [air emission risk assessments.](https://www.sepa.org.uk/easr)

| **Document reference** |
| --- |
|  |

#### 4.1.3 Detailed dispersion modelling

If any releases to air at relevant ecological receptors are not screened out as insignificant by the SCAIL screening tool, detailed modelling is required. Please provide the results of the modelling carried out in accordance with our guidance on [air emission risk assessments.](https://www.sepa.org.uk/easr)

| **Document reference** |
| --- |
|  |

### 4.2 Human health assessment

Please refer to our guidance on [air emission risk assessments](https://www.sepa.org.uk/easr) and provide an assessment of the potential significant effect of any air emissions on human health.

| **Document reference** |
| --- |
|  |

### 4.3 Stack assessment

To assess your application in accordance with The Conservation (Natural Habitats, &c.) Regulations 1994 (the Habitats Regulations), please complete Table 3 with the required details for each authorised and proposed stack.

When completing the table, please assume the following:

* SO2 emissions are 0 (zero) for natural gas, gas oil, biomass and hydrotreated vegetable oil.
* For both SO2 and NOx emission rates, provide the values in one of the following units: tonnes/year, kg/day, or grams/sec.

**Table 3: Stack(s) details**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Plant no.** (as per Table 2) | **National Grid Reference** (NGR) | **Inner diameter** (m) | **Gas temperature** (°C) | **Gas velocity** (m/sec) | **SO2 emission rate** (tonnes/year, kg/day, grams/sec) | **NOx emission rate**  (tonnes/year, kg/day, grams/sec) | **Stack height above ground** (m) | **Stack height above roof ridge** (m) |
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## Section 5 - Aggregation details for new MCP

If you are adding or varying two or more new MCPs (put into operation after 20 December 2018), they may be combined and considered as a single plant if the waste gases are discharged through a common discharge point, such as a stack. This approach can help improve the dispersion of emissions.

Do you intend to discharge waste gases through a common stack?

Yes

No

* If ‘Yes’, please submit a map showing the location of each MCP and all discharge points (e.g. stacks).

| **Document reference** |
| --- |
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* If ‘No’, please provide technical and economic justification explaining why discharging through a common stack is not feasible.

| **Document reference** |
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## Section 6 - MCP management

For MCP equal to or greater than 20 MW and less than 50 MW, please complete the relevant sections below where the proposed variation will result in changes to the management of the plant(s).

### 6.1 Environmental management system

#### 6.1.1 Management techniques and systems

Please describe the environmental management system you intend to implement to manage, monitor and control your environmental issues and maintain efficiency. Please indicate whether you intend to certify the management system.

| **Document reference** |
| --- |
|  |

#### 6.1.2 Start-up and shut-down plan

Please provide a start-up and shut-down plan for the plant(s). The plan must detail the steps that are required to minimise emissions during start-up and shut-down.

| **Document reference** |
| --- |
|  |

#### 6.1.3 Dust management plan

Please provide a dust management plan describing how you will control dust emissions where there is potential for dust from the MCP. Your plan must also include dust from activities such as loading, unloading, storage and handling of fuels, residues and additives.

| **Document reference** |
| --- |
|  |

#### 6.1.4 Odour management plan

Please provide an odour management plan describing how you will control odour emissions where there is potential of odour from the MCP and from activities such as storage, treatment and/or handling of fuels, residues and additives.

Please refer to our [Odour Guidance](https://www.sepa.org.uk/easr) for more details on managing and controlling odour emissions. An OMP template is available with our Odour Guidance.

| **Document reference** |
| --- |
|  |

### 6.2 Maintenance, accident prevention and staff training

Please provide the following details:

1. The proposed maintenance programme for the authorised place. For example, cleaning of flues and ductwork, and the provision of spare parts.
2. How accidents will be minimised, and the actions that will be taken to reduce the environmental consequences of accidents on the authorised place.
3. The environmental training programme that will be implemented for staff.

| **Document reference** |
| --- |
|  |

### 6.3 Resources and waste

Please provide the following details about resources and waste for the MCP activity.

1. **Resources required**: List the resources required including raw and auxiliary materials, fuel, water, energy, and other substances, along with any waste likely to be produced by the activity.
2. **Storage measures**: Explain how resources and waste will be stored safely and in a manner that minimises dust and odour. Include details such as quantities, tank sizes, and bund capacities. For example, storage of fuel and bottom ash.
3. **Sustainability and waste management**: Describe how resources will be used sustainably and how waste will be managed in line with the waste hierarchy.

| **Document reference** |
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## Section 7 - Any other information

If you have any additional information to support your application, please provide details in a separate document.

| **Document reference** |
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## Appendix 1: Energy efficiency

Complete this appendix if the requirements of schedule 25 apply to your activity.

You **do not** need to complete this appendix if:

* the activity is excluded by paragraph 3 of schedule 25,
* the activity began before 30 October 2014, or
* the plant or installation was substantially refurbished before 30 October 2014.

Schedule 25 applies to the activities listed below where:

* they generate electricity and have a rated thermal input exceeding 20 MW; or
* when one or more of these activities is operated at the same place and have a total rated thermal input exceeding 20 MW.

The activities are:

* Operating a large combustion plant.
* Waste incineration or waste co-incineration at a waste incineration plant or waste co-incineration plant.
* Operating a medium combustion plant.
* Burning any fuel in combustion plants which generate electricity on the same site with an aggregated rated thermal input of 1 MW or more as described in paragraph 1 of chapter 1 of part 3 of schedule 26 of EASR.

Schedule 25 also applies to industrial emissions activities or other emissions activities with a rated thermal input exceeding 20 MW, which:

* generate waste heat at a useful temperature level, or
* form part of a new or existing district heating or cooling network.

The appropriate energy efficiency application fee should be incorporated into your total application fee. Please see our charging scheme for further information. Before completing the form, please contact [ppcpermitting@sepa.org.uk](mailto:ppcpermitting@sepa.org.uk) for our most recent guidance on energy efficiency cost benefit analysis which will explain the methodology to be applied.

### Section A1-1 - Energy efficiency

Does schedule 25 apply to your activity?

Yes

No

If ‘Yes’, please provide full information in a separate document.

If ‘No’, please specify which exemption criteria apply to your activity.

| **Document reference** |
| --- |
|  |

### Section A1-2 - Cost benefit analysis

**A1-2.1 Cost benefit analysis**

Has a comprehensive national assessment and any associated cost benefit analysis demonstrated that a site-specific cost benefit is unlikely to be positive?

Yes

No

If ‘Yes’, please provide details.

If ‘No’, please supply a completed comprehensive cost benefit analysis in accordance with schedule 25, part 2 of EASR.

| **Document reference** |
| --- |
|  |

**A1-2.2 Opportunities for cogeneration or district heating**

Please supply results of your own search for opportunities for high efficiency cogeneration or district heating.

| **Document reference** |
| --- |
|  |

**A1-2.3 Potential heat loads**

Please supply any evidence of discussions with operators of potential heat loads which could be supplied.

| **Document reference** |
| --- |
|  |

**A1-2.4 Heat availability or requirements at the authorised place**

Please supply any technical detail on the amount and type of heat available from/required by the authorised place.

| **Document reference** |
| --- |
|  |

**A1-2.5 Heat availability or requirements at potential heat loads or sources**

Please supply any technical details on the amount and type of heat required by or available from potential heat loads or sources.

| **Document reference** |
| --- |
|  |

**A1-2.6 High-efficiency co-generation calculations**

Please supply high-efficiency co-generation calculations.

| **Document reference** |
| --- |
|  |

**A1-2.7 Plan to implement the scheme**

If the cost benefit analysis shows a positive result (i.e. the financial benefits are greater than the costs), provide a plan to implement the scheme, with justification and any supporting information. Include a discussion on any sensitivity analysis used.

| **Document reference** |
| --- |
|  |