

# Temporary regulatory position statement

# Recovery of waste to land for soil improvement – transitional arrangements

## 1 June 2025

## Background

The Environmental Authorisation (Scotland) Regulations 2018 (EASR) come into effect for waste management activities on 1 November 2025. From this date any waste management activity will require an EASR Authorisation. The application window for Authorisations for the recovery of waste by application to land for the purpose of soil improvement opens on 1 June 2025.

SEPA recognises that it would be disproportionate to require the renewal of a Paragraph 7 or 8(2) exemption which is scheduled to expire between 1 June 2025 and 1 November 2025 in circumstances where an application for an EASR application has been made prior to its expiry date.

## SEPA Position

Any Paragraph 7 or 8(2) exemption from Waste Management Licensing registered with SEPA prior to 1 June 2025 and scheduled to expire between 1 June 2025 and 1 November 2025 will continue to have effect and will not need to be renewed providing:

1. SEPA has received an application for an EASR authorisation prior to the exemption expiry date, and
2. it covers the location registered under the exemption.

The relevant exemption conditions must be complied with until the EASR Authorisation comes into force on 1 November 2025, or until the application is otherwise concluded.

This position will be reviewed on 1 November 2025.

SEPA reserves its discretion to depart from the position outlined here and to take appropriate action to avoid any risk of pollution or harm to human health or the environment.

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