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Wales

Environmental Permitting Charging Guidance

Effective from 1 April 2016

Contents

<u>Introduction</u>	3
Part A	
<u>Background to Regulation and Charging</u>	5
<u>What we charge for</u>	9
<u>Application charge</u>	10
<u>Subsistence charge</u>	12
<u>Variation charge</u>	13
<u>Transfer charge</u>	21
<u>Surrender charge</u>	22
<u>Other charges</u>	24
Permit Regimes	26
<u>Installations</u>	26
<u>Waste facilities</u>	30
<u>Mining waste</u>	38
<u>Mobile plant</u>	42
<u>Groundwater activities (landspreading)</u>	46
<u>Water discharge activities and groundwater activities (point source)</u>	48
<u>Radioactive substances activities</u>	50
<u>Flood risk activities</u>	56
Part B	
<u>Registrations and environmental permitting miscellaneous charges</u>	58
Part C	
Payment of charges	62
<u>Method and terms of payment</u>	62
<u>When charges are due</u>	63
<u>Further information</u>	64
<u>Contact us</u>	64
<u>Appendix 1</u> – flowchart to decide which radioactive substances permits you require	65
<u>Appendix 2</u> – table index.....	66

Introduction

This document is a guide to our fees and charges under the Environmental Permitting Charging Scheme, effective from 1 April 2016 and aims to explain the various elements of the scheme and the charges you will have to pay. It is designed to help both charge payers and our own staff and should be read in conjunction with the scheme itself.

This guide covers the fees and charges for the different types of operations that require a permit under the Environmental Permitting Regulations, as well as various other charges, relating to carriers, brokers and dealers of waste, producer responsibility, international waste shipments and waste exemptions. The types of environmental permit vary from those with standard rules to bespoke complex permits covering a wide range of activities such as complex chemical plants, large sewage works and nuclear power stations.

The Charging Scheme now covers the following activities:

- [Installations](#)
- [Waste facilities](#)
- [Mining waste](#)
- [Mobile plant](#)
- [Groundwater activities](#)
- [Water discharge activities and groundwater activities](#) (point source)
- [Flood risk activities](#)
- [Radioactive substances activities](#)

Other fees and charges include:

- [Waste carriers, brokers and dealers](#)
- [Exempt waste operations](#)
- [International waste shipments](#)
- [Producer responsibility – waste electrical and electronic equipment](#)
- [Producer responsibility – waste batteries and accumulators](#)
- [Transfrontier Shipment of Radioactive Waste and Spent Fuel Regulations 2008](#)

If you are carrying out other activities permitted by Natural Resources Wales not listed above you should check our website to see what charges may be applicable.

Structure of this document

To guide readers through the document and simplify the calculation of any charges payable, we have split the document into a number of sections. In most cases you will only need to read the relevant section for the activity or type of permit you do or are applying for.

If your permit covers multiple activities then you will need to read all the relevant sections before you will be able to calculate your charge.

Part A

Background to regulation and charging

Provides an introduction, covering charging basis, permit structure, risk appraisal and major changes since last year.

What we charge for

A general outline of our charges. Should be read in conjunction with the relevant section of this guidance document and our charges document 'Environmental Permitting Charging Scheme 2016/17', which covers specific aspects of the charges.

Guidance and charges

Contains sections covering each of the main permit charging regimes and the charges that apply.

Part B

Registrations and Environmental Permitting miscellaneous charges

These are charges that do not relate to environmental permits:

- Waste carriers, brokers and dealers
- Exempt waste operations
- International waste shipments
- Waste electrical and electronic equipment
- Waste batteries and accumulators
- Transfrontier Shipment of Radioactive Waste and Spent Fuel Regulations 2008

Part C

Payments and further information

Details on how to pay, sources of relevant further information and how to contact us.

Note: Our BACS payment details have changed, please see page 62 for further details.

Legal scheme

This document should be read in conjunction with the Environmental Permitting Charging Scheme 2016/17 which is the legal scheme that covers all the charging regimes in this guidance. This is the legal instrument that sets our charges.

Application forms

Permit application forms are available on our website or as a hard copy by phoning 0300 065 3000.

Part A

Background to Regulation and Charging

This section is designed to help you gain a broader understanding of our charging framework and help you work through the principles before applying it in any specific case.

We will explain the links between our approach to better regulation which aims to make our regulation proportionate, our Operational Risk Appraisal Scheme (OPRA) and our risk based approach to charging (Unified Charging Framework), provide an overview of the different tiers of regulation we use and how these combine to generate the charges payable.

Our objective is to make the level of regulatory effort proportionate to the environmental risk of the permitted activity, and for this to be reflected in our charges. In this way, well managed/low hazard activities present less of a risk and are charged less, with higher risk activities being charged more. Through our charging scheme we look to encourage good environmental performance and meet our objective to have the level of charge reflect the level of regulatory effort.

Unified Charging Framework (UCF)

We have developed the UCF as a common charging structure, built on the same three permitting tiers used in Better Regulation and OPRA. Charges within this charging scheme fit within this generic UCF.

Currently tier 1 is not used for any charges within the charging scheme, so it is not addressed further in this document.

Activities falling under tier 2 are placed in one of a number of bands using OPRA principles. Under UCF each of these is assigned a charge reflecting the level of regulatory effort they require. The annual subsistence charge may also be subject to an adjustment based upon a compliance rating. Tier 2 charges generally apply to permits subject to standard conditions and a specific group of lower risk bespoke permits.

Tier 3 activities relate to bespoke permits and the charges are generally calculated from a full OPRA profile for that permit type (or in the case of tier 3 radioactive substance activities, charged on a time and materials basis). The actual charge is calculated by using the relevant charge multiplier. This is the case for most applications, subsistence, normal and substantial variation, full and partial surrender charges. There are also a number of fixed charges that may apply to tier 3 bespoke permit such as that for a minor technical variation or low risk surrender.

Charges falling outside of UCF

For mainly historic reasons the Environmental Permitting Charging Scheme contains charges that do not wholly reflect UCF charging arrangements, these include:

- notifiable exemptions which are fixed charges but do not relate to permits. These are in transition and will expire in time.

- international waste shipments, waste electrical and electronic equipment, waste batteries and accumulators, and charges under Transfrontier Shipment of Radioactive Waste and Spent Fuel Regulations 2008 are all fixed charges unrelated to permits.
- subsistence charges for tier 3 bespoke waste and mining waste permits – this charging scheme continues to use the tables of waste charges from earlier waste management licensing schemes. These fixed charges are modified by the relevant compliance rating. It is envisaged that in time these charges will be removed and bespoke waste permits will have charges based (wholly) upon their OPRA profile.
- Charges for tier 3 radioactive substance activities on nuclear licensed sites and all radioactive substances facilities permitted to receive low level radioactive waste for disposal into land at the facility – charges are on a time and materials basis.

Charging Structure

The activities covered by a registration of permit vary in the amount of risk they post to the environment. The higher the level of risk, the more regulation the activity requires. Our Better Regulation approach is designed to reflect this. We divide the level of risk and required regulation into three tiers.

Tier 1

Tier 1 covers low risk activity that needs registration. As they are low risk, such registrations are issued automatically on request. Currently tier 1 is not used for any charges with the Charging Scheme.

Tier 2

The level of risk of tier 2 activities is generally higher than for automatically issued registrations:

- registrations (where we need to decide whether to accept the registration)
- standard Rule permits
- fixed condition licences (bespoke conditions, no new applications)
- some lower risk waste operations (bespoke conditions)
- some lower risk installations (bespoke conditions)
- some mining waste operations (bespoke conditions)
- some mobile plant operations
- some radioactive substances activities
- the majority of groundwater activities for land spreading discharges.

Tier 3

Tier 3 covers facilities requiring more detailed and individually tailored bespoke permits, these include:

- some installations
- some waste operations
- some mining waste operations
- some mobile plant operations
- radioactive substances facilities that have nuclear activities or are permitted to receive low level radioactive waste for disposal into land at the permitted facility.

Operational Risk Appraisal (OPRA)

To ensure that we look after the environment we need to be able to put more of our effort into the higher risk and poorly performing sites. OPRA is a risk assessment tool that helps us do this. OPRA provides an objective and consistent assessment of the environmental risk of operating a regulated facility.

The respective charging regime sections will tell you if and how OPRA applies. Some permits are not subject to OPRA. The OPRA scheme is based around the following attributes:

- complexity
- emissions
- location
- operator performance
- compliance rating

Each attribute is allocated one or more lettered bands. A score is allocated from the weighting tables that can be found in the respective charging regime sections.

Compliance Rating/Compliance Classification Scheme

A key element of OPRA is to link regulatory effort to how well permit conditions are complied with. For tier 2 and tier 3 we use the Compliance Rating approach to modify our regulatory effort. Scores calculated through the Compliance Classification Scheme are used to determine a lettered band from which an adjustment percentage is allocated and applied to the subsistence charge.

We calculate your compliance rating each year after your permit has been initially issued.

We have adopted a standard approach to classify permit breaches known as the Compliance Classification Scheme (CCS). The compliance rating is based on CCS events over the course of a calendar year. Non-compliances identified and recorded in 2015 are used to calculate a compliance rating for 2016/17 OPRA profiles.

We may also take into account relevant civil sanctions that we issue as enforcement responses. If you receive a civil sanction, this may influence the Operator Performance attribute of your OPRA profile.

Some types of permit are not subject to a subsistence compliance adjustment. The individual charging regime sections will state whether a compliance adjustment applies.

Converting CCS points into an OPRA band

We categorise permit breaches and use a points system where more serious breaches score a greater number of points. We then add the points from each event to give an annual total of non-compliance points. We allocate points based on the relative amount of additional work we usually have to do while dealing with different types of permit breach. For Category 1 breaches some of our costs are recovered through subsequent legal action, for example costs allocated following prosecution.

We took all of this into account when we calculated the CCS points per breach score:

- Category 1 - 60

- Category 2 - 31
- Category 3 - 4
- Category 4 - 0.1

We total the points for each non-compliance over a calendar year and convert the annual total into an OPRA band.

Table 1

CCS points	0	0 - 10	10.1 – 30	30.1 - 60	60.1 – 149.9	150 plus
OPRA band	A	B	C	D	E	F

The respective permit sections will tell you the effect each band has on the subsistence charge.

OPRA Compliance Band F

Band F indicates situations where operators have the poorest level of compliance. Waste facilities and installations which have over 150 CCS non-compliance points or more in a calendar year will see their annual subsistence charge adjusted to a rate equivalent to 300% of the base charge.

We want all those operators with a band F compliance rating to improve their performance.

Each year we will carry out a review at the mid-point of the following compliance period. If after the first six months (January to June) the compliance performance has improved to the extent that the mid-point score is less than 50 points an adjustment may be made to the second half-year charge to bring it into line with a band E performance. This would be equivalent to 150% of the base charge.

Further information on OPRA

Please note that we are continuing to use the Environment Agency’s OPRA scheme and more information on this scheme can be found on our website.

Scheme surpluses and deficits

We have an obligation under the Natural Resources Body for Wales (Establishment) Order 2012 to ensure that our charges are cost reflective. We do this by calculating the charges we consider we will need to raise in the forthcoming financial year. There is no certainty over how many operators might stop operating specific sites or how many new operations might start and so at the end of each financial year there may be a surplus or deficit in relation to each sector. The Environment Act 1995 requires Welsh ministers to make sure that in relation to all our charging schemes, our charges are cost reflective taking one year with another. We have a legal obligation to make good any surplus or deficit in relation to that particular scheme in subsequent years by adjusting the charges due under that scheme accordingly. We aim to adjust the charging scheme in a reasonable time in order to achieve this.

What we charge for

This section outlines the charges we make and why we charge. The following tables tell you which charges apply to a particular charging regime. Information relevant to multiple charging regimes appears in this section.

Table 2

Section name	Installations	Waste	Mining Waste	Mobile Plant	Groundwater (land spreading)	WDA and Groundwater (point source)	Radioactive Substances Tier 2	Radioactive Substances Tier 3	Flood Risk Activities
Application charge for a new permit	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	*	✓
Application for multiple facilities	✓	✓	✓				✓		✓
Pre-application advice	✓	✓	✓	✓	*	*	✓	✓	✓
Application amendments	✓	✓	✓	✓					
Standard rules permits -pre-application risk assessment	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓		
Staged procedure	✓	✓	✓						
Subsistence charge	✓	✓	✓	*	✓	✓	✓	*	✓
Compliance adjustment	✓	✓	✓	✓					
Subsistence invoice issue date	✓	✓	✓			*	✓		
Permit issued in the course of a year	✓	✓	✓		✓	*	✓		
Revocation, surrender, transfer and changes to permits.	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓		
Charge where construction or operation has not yet started	*	✓	✓			*			
Variation charge	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	*	
Administrative only change	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Minor technical change	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓		
Normal variation	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	*	*		
Substantial variation	✓		✓						
Permits with multiple regulated facilities	✓	✓	✓						✓
Variation to add/remove a facility	✓	✓	✓						
More than one permit holder for an installation	✓	✓	✓	✓					
Change to financial provision	✓	✓	✓	✓					
Closing a landfill	✓	✓							
Re-opening of a closed inert landfill	✓	✓							
Consolidation of permits	✓	✓	✓			✓	*		
Variations to permit type	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓			
Transfer charge	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	*	
Transferring more than one facility as part of a single permit	✓	✓	✓						
Transferring a permit where the management is the same	✓	✓	✓	✓					
Transfer of permits and compliance rating	✓	✓	✓	✓					
Surrender charge	✓	✓	✓				*	*	

Removing a regulated facility (with associated land)	✓	✓	✓						
Reducing the area of land	✓	✓	✓						
Surrender charge where operations have not yet commenced	✓	✓	✓						
Surrendering a permit for a low risk site	✓	✓	✓						
Groundwater assessment	✓	✓							
Independent monitoring charges	✓						✓	✓	
Mobile Plant deployment charge				*					
Default charges for Standard Permits	✓	✓	✓				✓		
Charge for advertising	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Monitoring and emergency response charges	✓	✓	✓						
*please see regime specific charge sections on these pages	<u>26</u>	<u>30</u>	<u>38</u>	<u>42</u>	<u>46</u>	<u>48</u>	<u>50</u>	<u>52</u>	<u>56</u>

Application Charges

Application charge for a new permit

This section covers general application charge information and does not apply to tier 3 radioactive substances activities.

You have to pay an application charge when you apply for a new permit. The payment must be submitted with the application however, you can submit your application and pay by credit card. If you do this we will contact you to obtain your credit card details.

Application for multiple facilities

If the permit you are applying for covers more than one type of regulated facility, including flood risk activities, the charge you have to pay is the sum of all the individual application charges for each facility covered.

Pre-application advice

For all permits except tier 3 radioactive substances activities, groundwater, water discharge and flood risk activity charging regimes we provide a certain amount of pre-application advice as part of the application process and the cost of providing this advice is covered within the application fee. The amount provided is as follows:

- Bespoke permits – up to 15 hours
- Standard permits – up to 1 hour

Please look at our guidance and talk to us before you apply. This will help you get your application right first time and help us make a decision more quickly.

If you need more help we can give you this at a charge of £125 per hour. This cost is levied under our general powers in the Natural Resources Body for Wales (Establishment) Order 2012 to charge for services provided.

If your charge is OPRA based we can help you calculate this.

Application amendments

Not applicable to flood risk activities

If you want to amend an application before it has been determined in a way that will require further public consultation then you will have to pay £1,930. If the OPRA score increases the application charge will be amended accordingly.

Standard rules permits pre-application risk assessment

Not applicable to water discharge, groundwater or flood risk activities

There is a provision in the scheme where a person can request approval to treat a regulated facility as a standard facility. This is subject to a specific risk assessment for which the charge is £350.

This provision is for situations where proposed activities meet all requirements of the particular standard rules and risk assessment, except for certain prescribed location requirements (for example they are within the defined distance of human habitation or environmentally sensitive areas). Details of the criteria can be found on our website.

For these specific situations we can offer a simple site specific risk assessment to assess the significance of being within the defined distance of the standard permit being applied for. This would be undertaken before an application is made and would determine if the risk was acceptable and whether a standard permit was suitable.

If the risk is acceptable then a standard permit could be applied for in the normal way and subject to the standard permit charges. If however the risk means that we need to look at the application in more detail through a tier 3 permit application, the tier 3 application charge would apply and the charge of £350 can be refunded once an application has been made.

Staged procedure

Not applicable to flood risk activities

We may agree that you can submit pre-application information in a number of stages in certain circumstances, such as:

- a major facility where development and commissioning may be spread over a number of phases or over a reasonable period of time
- where the facility is particularly complex
- where you wish to reduce possible business risks by detailed consultation with us and the public.

In such cases you will be invoiced for the costs of our time and materials for each stage of information submitted.

Application based on the staged procedure	£125 per hour
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Please contact us to discuss arrangements.

Subsistence charge

This section does not apply to mobile plant, where deployment charges apply, or to tier 3 radioactive substances activities which are charged on a time and materials basis, or to flood risk activities where there is a single one-off compliance charge.

The costs we incur in the ongoing regulation of a facility are recovered on an annual basis and are referred to as subsistence charges. These are payable for any full or part financial year during which a permit is in force. This includes where activities allowed by the permit have been suspended.

Subsistence charges for facilities will always be in the same tier of charges as the application charges.

Compliance adjustment

Some subsistence charges are adjusted by the compliance rating band of the respective permit. The exceptions to this are stand-alone permits covering accredited farming installations, groundwater activities, water discharge and radioactive substances activities. Where a permit covers multiple activities, including one which would normally be subjected to compliance adjustment, the whole permit shall be subject to adjustment by the compliance rating band.

The compliance band you fall in to is determined by your CCS score accumulated over the previous calendar year. A good compliance record means you will pay a lower subsistence charge than if you have a poor compliance record.

Subsistence invoice issue date

In most cases you will be sent an invoice at the beginning of April. Our charging year runs from April to March the following year. See individual regime sections for exceptions.

Permit issued during the course of a year

Where you receive a new permit during the course of a calendar year we will send you a pro rata invoice from the date of the new permit to cover the remaining part of that financial year. For subsequent years we will normally issue an invoice at the beginning of the April for the full financial year. For standard permits default standard charges apply.

Effect of revocation, surrender, transfer and permit charges

If we revoke or you surrender, transfer or change your permit after the date the subsistence charge is due, we will adjust the charge pro rata so that it ends/alters on the day the charge takes effect. If you have paid in full and the change puts your account into credit we will refund you.

Subsistence charge where construction has not commenced

For a regulated facility where no works or construction of any kind have commenced, the subsistence charge becomes payable on the later of:

- two years from the date the permit was granted, or
- 1 April 2017

The subsistence charge shall be the lower of £3,190 or the subsistence charge which would otherwise be payable.

Additional information specific to a particular charging regime and subsistence charge rates is contained in the regime sections.

Variation charge

Not applicable to tier 3 radioactive substance activities.

If you apply, or we decide to vary your permit you have to pay a variation charge unless;

- the change is administrative only
- the change is a request for a Fixed Condition Licence to become a standard rules permit of the same type
- we decide to vary a permit which relates to a specified water activity

Depending on the change to the permit and the permit regime, you can apply for;

- an administrative only change (free of charge)
- a minor technical change
- a normal variation
- a substantial variation (applies to installations or mining waste facilities)
- conversion of a bespoke permit to become a standard permit

Your application to vary can include any combination of the above variation categories.

For permits with an OPRA based charge an OPRA profile will need to be submitted with the application.

If your permit covers more than one regulated facility and you want to vary the permit, the charge is the sum of the individual variation charges for the facilities being varied.

Administrative only charge

Variations that are administrative only, as opposed to any change that requires assessment by us, are free.

A variation which Natural Resources Wales decides requires any technical assessment or consultation is not an administrative only variation.

Table 3

Administrative variation examples for installations and waste operations	
1	Correction of errors in the permit such as name and address or National Grid Reference (NGR), including name and address changes where there has been no change in legal entity.
2	Modifications due to changes in the legislation which prohibit the acceptance of a waste previously permitted by the permit.
3	Reduction of permitted volumes to a lower level.
4	Changes solely to the list of wastes the facility is permitted to accept, provided the change would not alter the nature of the facility's operation or increase the environmental risk posed.

	We will accept up to 15 waste type changes in one variation application as an administrative change, except for permanent deposit of waste to land for recovery. Adding new waste types to a land recovery permit is not an administrative variation. It will be at our discretion whether we accept more than one administration variation request in a 12 month period to amend waste types.
5	Increasing the permitted area of a standard facility which involves a change to the plan provided by the applicant.
6	Changing a fixed condition licence to a permitted facility subject to standard rules. This can also include increasing the area of permitted land.
7	Removing an emission point as the result of the removal of an item of plant providing the removal of the plant does not require technical assessment.
8	An improvement condition response requiring revised improvement conditions or other information assessments were carried out at the time of the permit determination.
9	Changing or setting limits following improvement conditions or other information assessments were carried out at the time of the permit determination.
10	Changing reporting requirements where it is a result of examples 7, 8 or 9 above.
11	An application to vary a standard permit to a different standard permit where the new permit covers the same activities but on a smaller scale and the operator meets the requirements of the new standard rules.

Table 4

Administrative variation examples for radioactive substances activities	
1	Correction of errors in the permit such as name and address or grid reference, including name and address changes where there has been no change in legal entity.
2	A reduction in the amount of activity of any radionuclide listed in a permit to hold sealed or open sources.
3	A reduction in any disposal or accumulation activity, time or volume limit in a tier 2 permit, authorising the disposal of radioactive waste.
4	The deletion of one or more disposal routes from a tier 2 permit.
5	Increasing the permitted area of a facility which involves a change to the plan provided by the applicant.
6	An increase of not more than 10% in any open source holding limit where the variation is made by notice and there is no permit consolidation.
7	Consolidation of an RSA93 open source registration and a RSA93 authorisation solely for the purposes of its transfer to another operator.
8	Consolidation of an RSA93 sealed source registration and an RSA93 mobile sealed source registration solely for the purposes of its transfer to another operator.
9	Changing a fixed condition registration to a facility subject to standard rules.

Table 5

Administrative variation examples for WDA and groundwater activities	
1	Correction of errors in the permit such as name and address or grid reference, including name and address changes where there has been no change in legal entity.
2	Change to start date of a permit or limit coming in to effect if the delay has already been approved with our water quality planners (AMP scheme) or national permitting service (all other cases).

	Permits cannot be retained without a discharge starting for an extended period of time unless outside the control of the operator. It is not acceptable to retain a permit to retain capacity in a receiving water.
3	Discharge outlet or sample point NGR corrections and changes where a change of NGR to improve the accuracy of an old NGR.
4	Discharge outlet or sample point NGR corrections and changes where a change of NGR is just to reflect the situation on the ground as long as the application was determined with it in the correct place so that the change is only in effect a typo correction.
5	Real changes in outlet or sample point location will be acceptable as an admin variation as long as the change is within 10m of the existing location or to a different water body.
6	Updating a permit to revise a condition where the wording is very similar so the update could be regarded as having no material effect.
7	Where discharges greater than 2m ³ /d but less than or equal to 5m ³ /d to ground, you wish to remove the word 'trade' from your permit (and we accept the case). Where these are existing permits they will principally be considered by the Groundwater Review Programme. If 2m ³ /d or less to ground or 5m ³ /d or less to surface water the operator may seek to register the discharge as exempt, without charge.
8	Change to provide a replacement map such as a better quality map or an updated map where the existing map is out of date.

Table 6

Administrative variation examples for flood risk activities	
1	Correction of errors in the permit such as name and address or grid reference, including name and address changes where there has been no change in legal entity.
2	Flood risk activity NGR corrections and changes where a change of NGR to improve the accuracy of an old NGR.
3	Flood risk activity NGR corrections and changes where a change of NGR is just to reflect the situation on the ground as long as the application was determined with it in the correct place so that the change is only in effect a typo correction.
4	Updating a permit to revise a condition where the wording is very similar so the update could be regarded as having no material effect.
5	Change to provide a replacement map such as a better quality map or an updated map where the existing map is out of date.

Minor technical change

Not applicable to flood risk activities, groundwater (land-spreading) and water discharge activities and groundwater (point source).

A minor technical change will involve some technical input by us but considerably less than for a normal variation.

In the following circumstances a normal variation charge will apply instead of a minor technical charge:

- on sites of high public interest or contentious industrial sectors eg – power station trials, new waste-derived fuels in cement kilns and incinerators etc.

- where emissions or techniques are complex or novel, or where complex modelling is required
- if they are on sites with sensitive receiving environments

We have explained this here to help you assess if your variation is likely to meet the criteria for a minor technical change. However if you have any doubt you should discuss the matter with your local Natural Resources Wales site officer.

If you want to make a minor technical change you will need to pay the lower of the following two options:

- a fixed charge of £1,280 (regardless of whether your permit normally incurs fixed or OPRA based charges) **or**
- the normal variation charge, **if this is lower**, as follows;
 - for installations and waste operations, the appropriate tier 2 or tier 3 variation charge
 - for radioactive substances activities, the appropriate tier 2 variation charge.

The charge payable is that which relates to the permit type after the variation takes place.

Table 7

Minor technical variation examples for installations and waste operations	
1	Adding an emission point for which we do not have to carry out a technical assessment.
2	Changes solely to the list of wastes a facility authorised for permanent deposit of waste to land for recovery is permitted to accept, provided the change would not alter the nature of the facility's operation or increase the environmental risk posed. We will accept up to 3 waste type changes in one variation application.
3	A new product introduction, trial or non-exempt research and development activity except where the emissions or techniques are complex or novel or where complex modelling is required.
4	An improvement condition response requiring revised improvement conditions that were not technically assessed during permit determination.
5	Changing or setting limits following improvement conditions or other information that was not technically assessed during permit determination.
6	Introducing non-complex standard conditions developed nationally for a sector.
7	An increase in annual throughput only.
8	An increase in storage capacities.
9	Adding treatment (recovery and disposal) codes, where the permit already allows treatment providing the change would not alter the nature of the facility's operation or increase the environmental risk posed.
10	Changing reporting requirements.

Table 8

Minor technical variation examples for radioactive substances activities	
1	An increase of note more than 10 per cent in any disposal or accumulation activity, time or volume limit in a permit.
2	Any increase in holdings of unsealed sources that does not result in an increase of more than 10 per cent in any disposal or accumulation activity, time or volume limit in a permit.

3	The addition of sealed sources to a type D (HASS) permit where each additional source is not a high activity source.
4	The first addition, resulting from a single variation or one or more disposal routes involving transfer to a person holding a permit authorising the receipt and disposal of radioactive waste in a financial year.
5	The consolidation of an RSA93 open source registration and a RSA93 authorisation other than for the purposes of its transfer to another operator.

Normal variation

A normal variation is a variation that is not an administrative only change, a minor technical change or a substantial variation. Conversion to a different type of permit may also be charged at the normal variation rate.

Tier 2 charges

If you want to make a normal variation to a permit that incurs tier 2 charges then you will have to pay a fixed charge. These are listed in the relevant permit regime sections. The only variations it is possible to make to a standard facility are an administrative or a minor technical variation. If you want to make a more significant change to your facility you have to apply for a variation to a bespoke permit.

Tier 3 OPRA based charges

If you want to make a normal variation to a permit that incurs tier 3 OPRA based charges, the charge you have to pay is your existing OPRA charging score multiplied by the charge multiplier listed in the relevant table in the permit regime sections. OPRA based variation charges apply to waste and mining waste where OPRA based subsistence does not apply.

Substantial variation – tier 3 OPRA based charges

A substantial variation is one where there is either a substantial change (which has potential to result in significant negative effects on the environment relating to an installation or mining waste operation) or where we decide that public consultation is required. Our advice document [Regulatory Guidance Series, No RGN 8](#) explains how we define substantial changes and decide whether public consultation is required.

An example would be an increase in capacity such that the emissions to air, calculated using H1 risk assessment methodology, result in a significant negative effect to the environment.

If you want to make a substantial variation to a permit that incurs tier 3 OPRA based charges, the charge you have to pay is your existing OPRA charging score multiplied by the charge multiplier listed in the relevant table in the permit regime sections.

If you have a permit where the OPRA banded profile covers more than one facility, these will combine together to give a single OPRA banded profile. In such circumstances, even if you are only varying one of the installations, it is still the full OPRA score that is used.

If we undertake a review of your permit, following the publication of a relevant BAT conclusions document in the Official Journal of the European Union, then you will be

charges for a normal variation (or where a derogation¹ to one or more BAT conclusions is required, you will be charged for a substantial variation). This charge will be payable at the time you respond to the Regulation 60 notice that requires you to submit information in order for us to carry out the BAT assessment. This charge covers the costs of assessing the Regulation 60 response and undertaking work to vary the permit accordingly.

Where a normal variation charge is paid if, on our assessment of the Regulation 60 response, it is subsequently identified that a derogation is required, you will be invoiced for the difference between a substantial variation charge and that already paid.

Permits with multiple regulated facilities

If your permit covers more than one regulated facility and you want to vary the permit, the charge is the sum of the individual variation charges for the facilities being varied, except in the case of substantial variations as detailed above. If the variation affects the different regulated facilities to different degrees then the total charge could be a combination of all the different types of variation charges. It could also be a combination of fixed charges and OPRA based charges.

Variation to add/remove a facility

Permit holders can vary their permit for a flood risk activity but there will be no charge in year 1.

Adding a facility to an existing permit

If you wish to add a tier 2 facility the sum payable is the applicable tier 2 new permit application charge.

If you hold a permit that covers a tier 3 installation group and you wish to add an additional tier 3 installation, or you hold a tier 3 waste facility and wish to add an tier 3 waste facility permit, the charge is based on the relevant variation charge multiplier, multiplied by the relevant OPRA charging score for the new facility.

If you wish to add a tier 3 facility of a different category the charge is based on the relevant application charge multiplier, multiplied by the relevant OPRA charging score for the new facility. Installations, waste and mining waste are separate categories.

Removing a regulated facility (with no associated land) from an existing permit

In this case the charge payable is equivalent to that which would apply if the relevant part of the permit were being surrendered. In the case of a tier 3 facility this will be the applicable partial surrender charge, where listed, or the full surrender charge for each facility being surrendered.

For a tier 2 facility it will be the relevant surrender charge or for a permit authorising more than one standard facility, the highest applicable surrender charge.

In the Regulations, references to an installation also include references to part of an installation. Removing part of an installation (e.g. removing one of a number of the same A1 activities) without associated land is charged as if for a partial surrender.

1 Article 15(4) of Directive 2010/75/EU provides for derogations from the requirement laid down in Article 15(3) only where the costs associated with the achievement of the emission levels associated with the BAT disproportionately outweigh the environmental benefits due to the geographical location, the local environmental conditions or the technical characteristics of the installation concerned.

The removal of a regulated facility with associated land requires a surrender application. See [page 22](#).

More than one permit holder for an installation

Where there is more than one permit holder for an installation and one of them applies for or is issued with a variation, the other permit holders will only incur a charge if their permits have to be varied as a result.

Change to financial provision

Any changes that affect the financial provision or the way you make it, incur variation charges in the same way as any other change. The charge will be one of the variation charges for either tier 2 or tier 3 depending on the activity the change relates to.

Closing a landfill

To close a landfill operation a normal variation charge applies.

Reopening of a closed inert landfill

Applying for a variation to reopen a closed landfill to allow the deposit of waste for disposal, a charge equivalent to the application as new will be required.

Consolidating two or more permits

When we consolidate permits we create one permit of modern conditions to replace the former permits. An operator may ask us to consolidate two or more permits on a site into one.

If the permits being consolidated are not modern permits we will map the existing conditions across to modern ones. If you ask us to consolidate you are agreeing to have a modern permit.

We calculate the charge for this variation to the permits as follows:

- Where the request is to consolidate, and no application to vary, the type of variation charge will depend on the level of work involved to create a modern permit.
- Where there is an application for variation along with a request to consolidate, the charge is at the Charging Scheme rate for variation for each permit. In addition for those permits being altered purely to allow consolidation there will be a minor technical variation charge, or no charge if it is an administrative only variation.

Consolidating a single permit

You may ask us, or we may decide, to produce a consolidated permit as a result of a variation application and/or as a Natural Resources Wales initiated variation. If the consolidation involves nothing beyond the consolidation of the results of any current variation application and all previous variations into a new consolidated permit, there would be no charge beyond the applicable charge for the variation application. However if the consolidation also involves, for example, modernisation of the permit as a result of a Natural Resources Wales initiated variation, there would be an additional charge for that variation which would depend on the level of work involved.

Varying a tier 2 permit to one that incurs tier 3 charges

If you apply for a variation that will result in your permit changing from one that incurs tier 2 charges to one that incurs tier 3 charges, you will need to submit an OPRA profile with your application. The variation charge you will have to pay will be based on this OPRA profile multiplied by the appropriate variation charge multiplier.

Variation to become a standard facility

If you want to vary a fixed condition permit to a facility subject to standard rules and can meet the requirements of the standard rules, this would be an administrative only variation and therefore free.

If you want to change from an existing permit that is not a fixed condition permit to a standard facility, the charge will be the relevant new application charge for the standard permit.

If you are applying for a variation to a standard facility and would also like to extend the area of the site you can extend the area without having to pay an additional charge.

Variation of a standard facility to become subject to different standard rules

The sum payable is the applicable permit application charge relating to the new standard rules.

Variation to become a bespoke tier 2 facility

If the variation is to a facility which is or will be when changed as proposed, a tier 2 facility other than one subject to standard rules the charge will be the relevant variation charge for the tier 2 bespoke permit.

Where an existing tier 2 facility is being changed to a different type of tier 2 facility other than one subject to standard rules, the application variation charge is that relating to the tier 2 facility when changed as proposed.

Variation of an existing tier 3 to a different tier 3

The normal variation charge is based on the existing OPRA profile and relevant charge multiplier.

The subsistence charge for the remainder of the financial year will be based upon:

- for an installation (when varied) – the new installation OPRA profile of the varied permit and calculated on a pro rata basis
- for a waste facility (when varied) – the appropriate table of waste charges, modified by the compliance rating and calculated on a pro rata basis.

Table 9

Variation charges – installation and waste – changes to existing facilities						
To/From	Tier 2 Waste standard facility	Tier 2 Installation standard facility	Tier 2 Installation (bespoke)	Tier 2 Waste operation (bespoke)	Tier 3 Installation	Tier 3 Waste operation
Tier 2 Waste standard facility	Fixed rate Standard facility application	Fixed rate Standard facility application	N/A	Fixed variation charge for relevant	New OPRA profile x Installation	New OPRA profile x Normal

	charge (1)(2)(4)	charge (1)(2)(4)		Waste operation (bespoke)	variation multiplier	variation Waste multiplier
Tier 2 Installation standard facility	Fixed rate Standard facility application charge (1)(2)(4)	Fixed rate Standard facility application charge (1)(2)(4)	Fixed variation charge for installation (bespoke) (3)	N/A	New OPRA profile x Installation variation multiplier	N/A
Tier 2 Fixed Condition Licence	Free (1)	N/A	N/A	Fixed variation charge for relevant Waste operation (bespoke)	New OPRA profile x Installation variation multiplier	New OPRA profile x Normal variation Waste multiplier
Tier 2 Installation (bespoke)	N/A	Fixed rate Standard facility application charge (2)(1)	N/A	N/A	New OPRA profile x Installation variation multiplier	N/A
Tier 2 Waste operation (bespoke)	Fixed rate Standard facility application charge (1)(2)	N/A	N/A	N/A	New OPRA profile x Installation variation multiplier	New OPRA profile x Normal variation Waste multiplier
Tier 3 Installation	Fixed rate Standard facility application charge (1)(2)	Fixed rate Standard facility application charge (1)(2)	Fixed variation charge for installation (bespoke) (3)	Fixed variation charge for relevant Waste operation (bespoke)	N/A	Existing OPRA profile x Installation Normal variation multiplier
Tier 3 Waste operation	Fixed rate Standard facility application charge (1)(2)	N/A	N/A	Fixed variation charge for relevant Waste operation (bespoke)	Existing OPRA profile x Installation Normal variation multiplier	N/A

(1) variation dependent on being able to meet standard rules

(2) if you would like to extend the area of the site when applying to vary a standard facility, you can do so free of charge

(3) variation dependent on being able to meet medium risk criteria

(4) applies to the variation of a standard facility to a different standard facility

Transfer charge

This section covers general transfer charge information. Additional information specific to a particular charging regime and application charge rates is contained in the regime sections. This section does not apply to tier 3 radioactive substances activities, flood risk activities, water discharge activities or groundwater activities.

If you want to transfer your permit you have to pay a transfer charge. You can apply to transfer either all or part (except for mobile plant) of a permit.

You will not have to pay a transfer charge if:

- your permit used to be a waste management licence and you were, on 6 April 2008, the operator by reason of Regulation 69(2) of the Environmental Permitting (England and Wales) Regulations 2007. The holder of a waste management licence which became an environmental permit under those Regulations was to be treated as the operator); and
- we have agreed the transfer is desirable for regulatory reasons.

Transferring more than one facility as part of a single permit

In this case you will only have to pay one transfer charge equivalent to the charge for transferring a single facility. You will not have to pay a charge for each separate facility.

The charge payable will be the highest of the individual charges. If your application covers two facilities that fall within tier 3 for example, you will pay the higher of the two charges. If your application covers different facilities that fall within tier 2 and tier 3 you will pay the higher of those individual charges.

If you are transferring all the facilities under the permit then you have to pay the highest of the individual full transfer charges.

Transferring a permit where the management is the same

If you would like to transfer your permit and you can demonstrate that the management of the operator you are transferring it to is substantially the same, you will have to pay whichever is the lowest of either:

- a fixed charge of £1,999
(waste, mining waste and mobile plant permit holders should note that this charge is equivalent to the tier 3 full transfer rate)
- the appropriate tier 2 or 3 charge

“Management” includes the people who are responsible for the management of the company and regulated facility, the management techniques employed, the compliance record and financial standing (and financial provision if appropriate) of the company and its managers.

Transfer of permits and compliance rating

When you transfer your permit (either part, full or within the same management) the compliance rating for the permit will also transfer across to the new operator. For example if the permit you transfer has a compliance rating of a band D then the pro rata subsistence charge applied to the new permit will be increased by a 1.25 multiplier. Further advice on the transfer of permits and your compliance rating are available in the individual annexes of the OPRA scheme.

Surrender charge

Not applicable to mobile plant, flood risk activities, water discharges or groundwater activities.

Surrender charges apply to permits regulating installations, waste and mining waste. Radioactive substances activities are also subject to a surrender charge but special rules apply. See relevant charging regime section for details.

This section covers general surrender charge information. Additional information specific to a particular charging regime and surrender charge rates is contained in the charging regime sections.

If you apply to surrender either part or your entire permit you must pay a surrender charge.

Removing a regulated facility (with associated land) from an existing permit

Where there is more than one facility under a permit and you wish to surrender one or more of them you will have to pay the sum of the surrender charges for the facilities being surrendered.

Tier 2 standard facilities

The individual surrender charge, or where the permit authorises and the surrender relates to, more than one standard facility, the highest applicable of those standard facility charges.

Non-standard facilities

If you are surrendering a whole permit you will have to pay the full surrender charge for each facility being surrendered. If you are only surrendering some of the facilities covered by the permit you have to pay a partial surrender charge, where listed, for the full surrender charge for each facility being surrendered.

Non-standard tier 2 facilities

The individual surrender charge at the full surrender rate or part surrender rate, where applicable.

Tier 3 facilities

The sum equal to the relevant OPRA charging score multiplied by the relevant surrender charge multiplier at the full rate, or part surrender rate where applicable.

The removal of a regulated facility with no associated land requires a variation application. See [page 18](#).

Reducing the area of land

To reduce the area of land a part surrender charge applies.

Surrender charge where operations have not commenced

If you want to apply to surrender the whole of a permit where operations have not commenced you will have to pay a surrender charge of £770, regardless of whether your facility normally incurs tier 2 or tier 3 charges.

Where there are several facilities on one site under a single permit and some have commenced and others have not, the surrender charge for the whole permit is the sum of all the separate surrender charges for the different facilities. Each facility where the operation has commenced is liable for the full surrender charge. Each facility where the operation has not commenced pays the reduced surrender charge of £770.

Surrendering a permit for a low risk site

If you want to apply for low risk or basic surrender of a permit authorising permanent deposit of waste, you must ask us to confirm whether or not you may do this, in line with our advice document "[How to surrender your environmental permit](#)" version 3 published in September 2014.

If you want to apply for low risk surrender of any other tier 2 or tier 3 facility we must confirm that an intrusive investigation is not needed, in line with the criteria in box 1 of "Site condition report – guidance and templates" (H5) version 3, published in April 2013.

If we agree you may have basic or low risk surrender the charge will be £2,532 for low risk surrender, £543 for a basic surrender, or the full surrender charge specified in the scheme if lower than these amounts.

Other charges

Groundwater assessment - applicable to landfill facilities

We are required to periodically review certain Environmental Permits to check the quality of groundwater. When we do this for a landfill and intend to charge we will contact you by serving a notice on you. We will carry out an initial review (currently £1,005) and if necessary, a more detailed review at an additional charge of £3,649.

Independent monitoring charges

In some cases and where prior notice is given, we may recover the cost of monitoring, site surveys or investigations carried out by contractors acting on our behalf by means of a direct charge. We will invoice you for the costs incurred after we have received invoices from the contractors for the work done.

Where a charge for monitoring is payable but the permit is revoked, the person previously operating the regulated facility shall continue to be liable for the monitoring charge in so far as it relates to any expenditure incurred or liabilities accrued by Natural Resources Wales in the year of revocation or in prior years.

Mobile plant deployment charge

Applicable to mobile plant permits. See mobile plant section on [page 42](#).

Charge for advertising

Where we need to advertise your application in accordance with our public participation statement ([see our website](#)) in a newspaper, we will need to recover our costs of placing the advert and will levy an advertising charge of £500 for each advertisement.

Monitoring and emergency response charges

Except in relation to a specified water activity, the cost of monitoring, site surveys and investigations carried out by contractors acting on behalf of Natural Resources Wales will be recovered where appropriate, by means of a direct charge per permit to be notified to the operator.

Where Natural Resources Wales responds to an emergency air quality incident resulting from the operation of a facility authorised by a permit, the relevant time and materials costs of that response, including the costs of any contractors used, will be recovered where appropriate by means of a direct charge per permit to be notified to the operator.

In cases where a charge is payable under this paragraph but the permit is revoked, the person previously operating the regulated facility shall continue to be liable for the charge in so far as it relates to any expenditure incurred or liabilities accrued by Natural Resources Wales in the year of revocation or in prior years.

Permit Regimes

Installations

Advice in this section covers charges for installations. It is important that you are familiar with the general aspects of permits and charging before reading this section.

Charges for permits for installations are either tier 2:

- standard rules installation
- low impact bespoke installation
- local authority installation (Part A(2) or Part B bespoke installation, or a small waste incineration plant)
- farming installation
- directly associated activity installation, ie one that does not include a schedule 1 permitted activity
- paragraph 17 installation, ie one that is an installation only by virtue of regulation 104 of the Environmental Permitting Regulations

Or tier 3:

- all other bespoke installations

When waste operations, water discharge activities and/or groundwater activities are included in the same permit as an installation but are not part of it, they are standalone regulated facilities. Standalone regulated facilities in this case are required to pay the appropriate separate charge.

Where more than one installation is carried on by the same operator at one site and under one permit, the Charging Scheme refers to this as an installation group. Each installation group will require an OPRA banded profile under the OPRA Scheme and will attract a single tier 3 charge under the Charging Scheme.

Directly Associated Activity (DAA)

Under the Environmental Permitting Regulations all parts of an installation require a permit and in some cases a permit may include more than one installation. A DAA is part of the installation that does not include the carrying on of any activity listed in any part of Schedule 1 of the Regulations but has a technical connection to the listed activity (and is not a low impact installation). In such situations there is no separate charge for the DAA but their emissions will be included in the installation OPRA profile and thus included in the total installation permit charge. Waste operations, water discharge activities and/or groundwater activities are included in the types of activity that may meet the definition of a DAA and be part of an installation.

An installation group will usually have a single operator. However in some situations parts of installations may be operated by different operators. Each different operator must have their own permit. Where a permit includes only a DAA and no Schedule 1 activity, none of the other installation charges in the scheme apply. As there is work associated with such permits and we are required to cover our costs we apply a charge for a DAA in such circumstances. This is a tier 2 charge. See [page 34](#).

The following information on subsistence is specific to installations:

Accredited farming installations

Subsistence charges for tier 2 accredited farming installations will not be adjusted by a compliance rating, subsistence for non-accredited farming installations will be subject to a compliance adjustment.

Where a farming installation becomes an accredited farming installation after the date on which the subsistence charge is payable in any year, the charge shall be adjusted pro rata from the date on which this occurs.

The following information on variations is specific to installations:

Multi-product protocol (MPP)

A small number of installations are identified as being subject to the MPP approach, rule 5 in the OPRA scheme annex for installations. For these, the decision on whether an operational change requires a variation is specified in the advice document about MPP entitled “Guidance on the use of a multi-product protocol (MPP) at chemical production installations”.

The following information on default charges is specific to installations:

For standard permits introduced after 1 April 2015 – new standard permits will be placed in to the most appropriate existing charge band. We will identify the charge for each new proposed standard permit when we consult on the permit and confirm our response.

The charge bands accorded to a default standard facility will be selected from the following table:

Table 10

Charge bands available for an installation default standard facility							
Charge Band	Application Charge	Charge Band	Transfer Charge	Charge Band	Surrender Charge	Charge Band	Subsistence Charge
S030A	£400	S035T	£718	S040S	£543	S030C	£156
S040A	£718	S040T	£974	S045S	£1,538	S040C	£308
S050A	£974			S050S	£2,532	S050C	£523
S060A	£1,630			S060S	£3,588	S060C	£779
S070A	£1,948					S074C	£1,281
						S080C	£1,579
						S090C	£2,040
						S100C	£2,481
						S120C	£3,413

Table 11

Installations – tier 2 subsistence charge compliance band adjustment						
Compliance band	A	B	C	D	E	F
% of base charge	100%	100%	110%	125%	150%	300%

Table 12

Installations – tier 2 standard permits					
Installations that are standard facilities	Rules number	Application	Transfer	Surrender	Subsistence
Low impact Part A Installation	SR2009no2	£1,630	£379	£379	£523
Low impact Part A Installation for production of biodiesel	SR2009no3	£1,630	£379	£379	£523
Composting in closed systems (capacity over 75 tonnes/day)	SR2012 No4	£1,948	£974	£3,588	£2,481
Composting in open systems (capacity over 75 tonnes/day)	SR2012 No8	£1,948	£974	£3,588	£2,481
On-farm anaerobic digestion facility including the use of the resultant biogas	SR2012 No9	£1,948	£974	£1,538	£2,040
Anaerobic digestion facility including the combustion of the resultant biogas	SR2012 No 11	£1,948	£974	£1,538	£3,413
Treatment of incinerator bottom ash (IBA) (capacity over 75 tonnes/day)	SR2012 No13	£1,948	£974	£3,588	£2,481

Table 13

Installations – tier 2 bespoke permits								
Installations that are not standard facilities	Application	Normal Variation	Substantial Variation	Part Transfer	Full Transfer	Part Surrender	Full Surrender	Subsistence
Low impact Part A Installation	£2,634	£379	£379	£379	£379	£379	£379	£523
Local authority installation	£1,630	£543	£974	£543	£543	£543	£543	£994
Accredited farming Installation ⁽¹⁾	N/A	£379	£379	£379	£379	£379	£379	£1,579
Non-accredited farming Installation	£3,741	£379	£379	£379	£379	£379	£379	£2,481
Directly Associated Activity	£7,370	£1,958	£3,905	£7,452	£4,971	£5,638	£6,642	£3,413
Paragraph 17 activity	£7,370	£1,958	£3,905	£7,452	£4,971	£5,638	£6,642	£3,413

- (1) The Farm Assurance Scheme is for pig and poultry producers who are regulated through Environmental Permitting Regulations 2010. Farmers can qualify for the scheme by showing a high standard of compliance under their permit conditions. The benefit to farmers who meet the entrance criteria is a reduced annual subsistence charge. The charge is subject to a pro-rata adjustment in the event of a mid-year change. Subsistence charge is not subject to a compliance adjustment.

Table 14

Installations – tier 3 charges	
Charge type	Charge method
Application charge	OPRA score from the OPRA weighting table multiplied by the relevant OPRA multiplier
Subsistence charge	OPRA score from the OPRA weighting table multiplied by the relevant OPRA multiplier, adjusted for compliance
Variation charge (see section 4 for administrative and minor technical variations)	OPRA score from the OPRA weighting table multiplied by the relevant OPRA multiplier
Transfer charge	Part transfer £7,452 Full transfer £4,971
Surrender charge	OPRA score from the OPRA weighting table multiplied by the relevant OPRA multiplier
Groundwater assessment	Initial review £1,005 Further review, if required £3,649
Independent monitoring charges	Cost recovery charging

Table 15

Installations – OPRA weighting table						
Attribute		Band score				
		A	B	C	D	E
Complexity	Note – each activity is scored	2	15	45	82	110
Emissions	Air	3	10	20	35	50
	Water	3	10	20	35	50
	Land	3	10	20	35	50
	Waste input	3	10	20	35	50
	Sewer	1	2	3	5	10
	Off-site waste	1	2	3	5	10
Location		3	10	20	40	60
Operator Performance		10	25	40	60	75

Table 16

Installations – tier 3 OPRA charge multipliers	
Charge	Installations
	Multiplier
Permit application charge	£206
Subsistence charge	£100
Normal variation charge	£57
Substantial variation charge	£113
Full surrender charge	£127
Partial surrender charge	£98

Table 17

Installations – tier 3 subsistence charge compliance band adjustment						
Compliance band	A	B	C	D	E	F
% of base charge	95%	100%	110%	125%	150%	300%

Waste Facilities

Guidance in this section covers charges for waste facilities, but you may wish to read this in conjunction with other sections of this document such as [Background to Charging](#) and [What We Charge For](#), covering the general aspects of permits and charging before reading this section.

Charges for permits for waste facilities are either tier 2:

- standard rules waste facilities
- fixed condition licence (no longer available to apply for)
- some bespoke waste facilities

Or tier 3 (all other bespoke waste facilities).

The Charging Scheme uses the term waste facility as shorthand for one, or a group of, waste operations that are not part of an installation, but are carried on by the same operator on one site as one overall operation and under one permit (for example a transfer station).

Each waste facility is liable for a separate charge.

In some cases a water discharge activity or groundwater activity may be part of the waste operation; although they are no longer standalone regulated facilities they are still liable for the appropriate separate charge. Full details of charges for groundwater activities (land spreading) can be found on [page 46](#) and for water discharge activities and groundwater activities (point source) on [page 48](#).

The facilities listed in Schedule 1 Part 2 Chapter 3 of the Environmental Permitting Charging Scheme 2016/17 are all those that incur waste tier 2 charges. A waste facility that is not on this list will be subject to tier 3 charges.

The list of standard facilities covers common waste management activities but this does not mean your current permit for the same activity is automatically a standard permit. To become a standard facility you need to apply and demonstrate that you meet the standard rules criteria.

Charges to make changes to tier 2 permits are fixed tier 2 charges unless you are applying to vary your permit so that it no longer meets the tier 2 criteria, in which case tier 3 charges will apply (see page 13 for more information).

There are two types of standardised waste operation permit that you can no longer apply for;

- fixed condition licences, and

- bespoke tier 2 vehicle de-pollution permits taking less than 2,500 tonnes.

Additionally, if you hold a fixed condition licence you can apply, free of charge, to vary it to operate under one of the published sets of waste operation standard rules.

Landfill sites regulated as waste operations

Operational landfill sites for hazardous and non-hazardous waste are regulated as installations. Landfills for the disposal of inert waste and sites that closed under the Landfill Directive transitional arrangements are waste operations. Therefore landfills regulated as waste operations will be either operational or closed landfills taking only inert waste or sites that are closed or closing having never operated under a permit compliant with the Landfill Directive requirements.

The applicable subsistence charge will be a combination of charges in transitional waste summarised in the table below:

Table 18

Type of landfill site	Transitional waste table 3A charge	Transitional waste table 4 charge	Transitional waste table 6 charge	Transitional waste table 7 charge
Operational inert landfill	Y	X	If permitted	N/A
Closed site but not yet definitely closed	Y	X	If permitted	If permitted ¹
Definitely closed sites in the aftercare phase	X	Y	If permitted	If permitted ¹

¹ Permitted means that there is a specific condition in the permit covering the management of landfill gas using an engine, or the activity is covered by the 'working plan' that is specifically incorporated in to the permit.

Landfill sites with a Landfill Directive permit (those that were re-permitted in the 2000s) that cease accepting waste for disposal are required to apply to vary their permit and submit a closure report. The variation charge covers our costs of assessing the closure report and varying the permit to the appropriate aftercare conditions.

For landfill sites that should have started the closure process by July 2009, the variation charge for assessment of the closure report will be the minor technical variation charge. If subsequently additional or varied conditions are required for specific pollution prevention reasons, a further variation application charge will be required. This will be at the appropriate rate, either minor technical or normal variation.

Burning of biogas

The tier 2 option is for landfill gas engines at a facility not being charged in conjunction with a Transitional Waste Table 3 or 4 bespoke waste permit. The tier 3 option (Transitional Waste Table 7 part A) is for landfill gas engines that are currently being charged in conjunction with Transitional Waste Table 3 or 4 bespoke waste permit. Transitional Waste Table 7 part B covers non-landfill facilities regulated for the burning of biogas.

The following information on subsistence is specific to waste facilities:

Tier 3 waste facilities – subsistence rules for permits covering more than one facility

As a general rule if a permit covers more than one regulated facility, the charge you have to pay is the sum of all the individual subsistence charges for facilities covered.

An exception to this is if your permit covers more than one waste facility and they fall into more than one part of the same Transitional Waste Table. In this situation you have to pay the highest of the individual charges, not the total.

Where a permit authorises both the treatment and keeping of waste the charge is the higher of the sums from the Transitional Waste Tables 1 and 2 (or Table 7 part B where burning biogas other than from a landfill also applies).

Registered as exempt after subsistence charge is due

If a regulated facility is registered as exempt from environment permitting after the date the subsistence charge is due, we will adjust the charge pro rata so it ends on the day the exemption takes effect. If you have paid in full and the exemption puts your account into credit we will refund the balance.

Additional subsistence charging rules

Waste – adjacent sites

This option is no longer available to new applicants.

Land specified in one of the permits shall be treated as adjoining land specified in another of the permits notwithstanding that the areas of land are separated by a highway.

Table 19

Conditions	Charge
An agreed adjacent site arrangement was already in place prior to 1 April 2009	<p>One sum is payable in respect of the relevant permits. Whichever is the lower of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the equivalent to the sum which would be payable if all the waste to which those permits relate had been the subject of a single permit, or the total of the sums calculated for each permit separately.

Table 20

Waste landfill adjoining an installation landfill	
Conditions	Charge
Permit is determined in accordance with Transitional Waste Table 3 or 4 (either alone or in conjunction with other tables) and the land specified in the permit adjoins* an installation which is a landfill operated by the same permit holder.	Sum due reduced by 10%

* Land specified in one of the permits shall be treated as adjoining land specified in another of the permits notwithstanding that the areas of land are separated by a highway.

The following information on the waste recovery review charge is specific to waste facilities:

Applies to standard permits SR2010no7, SR2010No8, SR2010No9, SR2010No10

Before we can issue an environmental permit for a waste operation permit that includes permanent deposit of waste as a recovery activity, we have to make an assessment of the waste recovery plan. This involves an assessment of whether the activity constitutes a recovery activity under the Waste Framework Directive Waste Hierarchy. The initial assessment is included in the permit application charge but it is not part of the permit and therefore changing it is not a variation.

If an operator's plan changes after the permit is determined, such subsequent re-assessment of the waste recovery plan is not currently covered by the subsistence charge. We have therefore introduced a charge of £350 for any subsequent re-assessment of a waste recovery plan required during the operation of a permit. This charge will be triggered specifically by a request for a change to the waste recovery plan. Please note that this charge only applies when the operator wants to change the waste recovery plan after the permit has been issued.

The following information on default charges is specific to waste facilities:

For standard permits introduced after 1 April 2016.

New standard permits will be placed into the most appropriate existing charge band. We will identify the charge for each new proposed standard permit when we consult on the permit and confirm our response.

The charge bands accorded to a default standard facility will be selected from the following table:

Table 21

Charge bands available for a waste default standard facility							
Charge band	Application charge	Charge band	Transfer charge	Charge band	Surrender charge	Charge band	Subsistence charge
S030A (W)	£400	S035T (W)	£718	S040S (W)	£543	S030C (W)	£156
S040A (W)	£718	S040T (W)	£974	S045S (W)	£1,538	S040C (W)	£308
S050A (W)	£974			S050S (W)	£2,532	S050C (W)	£523
S060A (W)	£1,630			S060S (W)	£3,588	S060C (W)	£779
S070A (W)	£1,948					S074C (W)	£1,281
						S080C (W)	£1,579
						S090C (W)	£2,040
						S100C (W)	£2,481
						S120C (W)	£3,413

Table 22

Tier 2 subsistence charge compliance band adjustment						
Compliance band	A	B	C	D	E	F
% of base charge	100%	100%	110%	125%	150%	300%

Table 23

Waste - tier 2 bespoke permits					
Bespoke waste facilities	Application	Normal Variation*	Transfer	Surrender	Subsistence
Pet cemetery	£400	£142	£379	£379	£156
Waste motor vehicle facility (<2500t authorised by environmental permit prior to 1 April 2006)	N/A	£1,958	£974	£3,588	£779
Landfill gas facility (not being charged in conjunction with a Transitional Waste Table 3 or 4 bespoke waste permit)	£3,741	£1,958	£974	£2,532	£2,901
Composting. Same as SR2011no1 or SR2010no14 but location requires assessment	N/A	£1,958	£974	£1,538	£994
Use of wastes in construction – up to 50,000 tonnes. Same as SR2010 no7 but location requires assessment	£2,634	£1,958	£974	£3,588	£1,579
Use of wastes in construction – 50,001 to 100,000 tonnes. Same as SR2010 no8 but location requires assessment	£2,634	£1,958	£974	£3,588	£2,040
Use of wastes for reclamation, restoration or improvement of land - up to 50,000 tonnes. Same as SR2010 no9 but location requires assessment	£2,634	£1,958	£974	£3,588	£1,579
Use of wastes for reclamation, restoration or improvement of land – 50,001 to 100,000 tonnes. Same as SR2010 no9 but location requires assessment	£2,634	£1,958	£974	£3,588	£2,040
Treatment of waste to produce soil, soil substitutes, road-stone and aggregate up to 75,000 tonnes. Same as SR2010 no12 but location requires assessment	£2,634	£1,958	£974	£3,588	£1,579
Manufacture of timber and construction products from waste up to 75,000 tonnes. Same as SR2010 no13 but location requires assessment	£2,634	£1,958	£974	£3,588	£2,040

* See [page 13](#) for administrative and minor technical variations

Waste - tier 2 Standard Permit and Fixed Condition Licence charge rates

This table only contains charge rates, please see Schedule 1 Part 2 Chapter 3 of the Environmental Permitting Charging Scheme 2016/17 for descriptions of the Standard Permits and Fixed Condition Licences listed. Permits relating to specific charging regimes can be found in the relevant regime section. Normal variations do not apply to Standard Permits. For admin and minor technical variations see [page 13](#).

Table 24

Standard Permits				
Rules number	Application	Transfer	Surrender	Subsistence
SR2008no1	£1,630	£974	£3,588	£2,481
SR2008no2	£1,630	£974	£3,588	£2,481
SR2008no3	£1,630	£974	£3,588	£2,481
SR2008no4	£1,630	£974	£3,588	£2,481
SR2008no5	£1,630	£974	£3,588	£3,413
SR2008no6	£1,630	£974	£3,588	£3,413
SR2008no7	£1,630	£974	£3,588	£3,413
SR2008no8	£1,630	£974	£3,588	£3,413
SR2008no9	£1,630	£974	£3,588	£2,040
SR2008no10	£1,630	£974	£3,588	£2,040
SR2008no11	£1,630	£974	£3,588	£2,040
SR2008no12	£1,630	£974	£3,588	£2,481
SR2008no13	£1,630	£974	£3,588	£2,481
SR2008no14	£1,630	£974	£3,588	£2,040
SR2008no15	£1,630	£974	£3,588	£2,040
SR2008no16	£1,630	£974	£3,588	£2,481
SR2008no17	N/A	£974	£3,588	£2,481
SR2008no18	N/A	£974	£3,588	£2,481
SR2008no19	£1,630	£974	£3,588	£3,413
SR2008no20	£1,630	£974	£3,588	£2,481
SR2008no21	£1,630	£974	£3,588	£2,481
SR2008no22	£1,630	£974	£3,588	£2,040
SR2008no23	£1,630	£974	£3,588	£2,901
SR2008no24	£1,630	£974	£3,588	£2,901
SR2008no25	£1,630	£974	£3,588	£3,936
SR2008no26	£1,630	£974	£3,588	£779
SR2009no1	£400	£379	£379	£156
SR2009no4	£1,630	£974	£2,532	£779
SR2009no5	£1,630	£974	£3,588	£2,481
SR2009no6	£1,630	£974	£3,588	£2,481
SR2009no7	£1,630	£974	£3,588	£2,481
SR2010no7	£1,948	£974	£543	£1,579
SR2010no8	£1,948	£974	£543	£2,040
SR2010no9	£1,948	£974	£543	£1,579
SR2010no10	£1,948	£974	£543	£2,040
SR2010no12	£1,630	£974	£1,538	£1,579
SR2010no13	£1,630	£974	£1,538	£1,579
SR2010no14	£1,630	£974	£1,538	£779

SR2010no15	N/A	£974	£1,538	£2,481
SR2010no16	N/A	£974	£1,538	£1,579
SR2010no17	£1,630	£974	£1,538	£779
SR2010no18	£1,630	£974	£1,538	£1,579
SR2011no1	£1,630	£974	£1,538	£779
SR2011no2	£1,630	£974	£3,588	£1,281
SR2011no3	£1,630	£974	£3,588	£779
SR2011no4	£1,630	£974	£1,538	£1,579
SR2012no3	£1,630	£974	£3,588	£2,481
SR2012no7	£1,630	£974	£3,588	£2,481
SR2012no10	£1,630	£974	£1,538	£1,579
SR2012no12	£1,630	£974	£1,538	£2,481
SR2012no14	£1,630	£974	£3,588	£1,579
SR2012no15	£1,630	£974	£3,588	£2,040

Table 25

Fixed Condition Licences				
Number	Normal variation	Transfer	Surrender	Subsistence
FCL1	£1,958	£974	£3,588	£2,481
FCL2	£1,958	£974	£3,588	£2,481
FCL3	£1,958	£974	£3,588	£3,413
FCL4	£1,958	£974	£3,588	£3,413
FCL5	£1,958	£974	£3,588	£2,040
FCL6	£1,958	£974	£3,588	£2,040
FCL7	£1,958	£974	£3,588	£2,040
FCL8	£1,958	£974	£3,588	£2,481
FCL9	£1,958	£974	£3,588	£2,481
FCL10	£1,958	£974	£3,588	£2,481
FCL11	£1,958	£974	£3,588	£2,481
FCL12	£1,958	£974	£3,588	£2,481
FCL12 <2.5kt	£1,958	£974	£3,588	£779
FCL13	£1,958	£974	£3,588	£2,040
FCL14	£1,958	£974	£3,588	£2,481
FCL15	£1,958	£974	£3,588	£2,481
FCL16	£1,958	£974	£3,588	£779
FCL17	£1,958	£974	£3,588	£3,413
FCL18	£1,958	£974	£3,588	£2,901
FCL19	£1,958	£974	£3,588	£2,901
FCL20	£1,958	£974	£3,588	£3,936
FCL21	£1,958	£974	£3,588	£2,040
FCL22	£1,958	£974	£3,588	£2,481

Table 26

Tier 3 Waste charges	
Charge type	Charge method
Application charge	OPRA score from the OPRA weighting table multiplied by relevant OPRA multiplier
Subsistence charge	Fixed as from Transitional waste tables 1 to 4, 6 and 7, adjusted for compliance

Variation charge (see page 13 for administrative and minor technical variations)	OPRA score from the OPRA weighting table multiplied by relevant OPRA multiplier
Transfer charge	Part transfer £2,993 Full transfer £1,999
Surrender charge	OPRA score from the OPRA weighting table multiplied by relevant OPRA multiplier
Groundwater assessment	Initial review £1,005 Further review if required £3,649

Table 27

Waste – OPRA weighting table						
Attribute		Band score				
Complexity	Note each activity is scored	A	B	C	D	E
Emissions	Air	4	10	35	50	65
	Water					
	Land					
	Waste input	3	7	15	30	40
	Sewer					
	Off-site waste					
Location		1	2	3	5	7
Operator performance		2	4	7	10	14

Table 28

Waste – tier 3 OPRA charge multipliers	
Charge	Waste facility Multiplier
Permit application charge	£171
Subsistence charge	N/A
Normal variation charge	£139
Full surrender charge	£125
Part surrender charge	£125

Table 29

Waste – tier 3 subsistence charge compliance band adjustment						
Compliance band	A	B	C	D	E	F
% of base charge	95%	100%	110%	125%	150%	300%

Waste - tier 3 Transitional Waste charge bands

This table only contains charge rates, please see Schedule 3 of the Environmental Permitting Charging Scheme 2016/17 for descriptions of permit bands listed. Mining Waste can be found in the relevant charging regime section.

Table 30

Band	Charge	Band	Charge	Band	Charge	Band	Charge
T1A/a/1	£3,219	T2A/a/1	£161	T3A/a/1	£6,171	T4A/a/1	£697
T1A/a/2	£4,080	T2A/a/2	£328	T3A/a/2	£11,613	T4A/a/2	£923
T1A/a/3	£5,023	T2A/a/3	£482	T3A/a/3	£15,447	T4A/a/3	£1,169

T1A/a/4	£6,683	T2C/a/1	£1,773	T3A/b/1	£8,221	T4A/b/1	£779
T1A/b/1	£1,722	T2C/a/2	£2,122	T3A/b/2	£16,646	T4A/b/2	£1,046
T1A/b/2	£2,347	T2C/a/3	£2,768	T3A/b/3	£22,140	T4A/b/3	£1,322
T1A/b/3	£2,604	T2C/a/4	£3,680	T3A/b/4	£32,636	T4A/b/4	£1,743
T1A/b/4	£3,424	T2C/b/1	£1,025	T3A/c/1	£2,071	T4A/c/1	£296
T1A/c/1	£1,169	T2C/b/2	£1,456	T3A/c/2	£2,973	T4A/c/2	£349
T1A/c/2	£1,435	T2C/b/3	£1,886	T3A/c/3	£4,930	T4A/c/3	£451
T1A/c/3	£1,876	T2C/b/4	£2,542	T3A/c/4	£6,560	T4A/c/4	£605
T1A/c/4	£2,491	T2C/c/1	£779	T3A/d/1	£4,121	T4A/d/1	£472
T1A/d/1	£779	T2E/a/1	£4,828	T3A/d/2	£6,570	T4A/d/2	£666
T1B/a/1	£8,190	T2E/a/2	£7,073	T3A/d/3	£8,743	T4A/d/3	£892
T1B/a/2	£10,578	T2E/a/3	£9,235	T3A/e/1	£151	T4A/e/1	£151
T1B/a/3	£12,936	T2E/a/4	£12,280	T3A/f/1	£6,078	T4A/f/1	£584
T1B/a/4	£17,200	T2E/b/1	£1,025	T3A/f/2	£9,184	T4A/f/2	£810
T1B/b/1	£2,122	T2E/b/2	£1,691	T3A/f/3	£12,208	T4A/f/3	£1,076
T1B/b/2	£2,757	T2E/b/3	£2,706	T3A/g/1	£2,522	T4A/g/1	£318
T1B/b/3	£3,444	T2E/b/4	£3,588	T3B/a/1	£851		
T1B/b/4	£4,582	T2E/c/1	£1,978			T6A/a/1	£2,522
T1B/c/1	£1,394	T2E/c/2	£2,850				
T1B/c/2	£1,907	T2E/c/3	£4,121			T7A/a/1	£3,311
T1B/c/3	£2,501	T2E/c/4	£5,474			T7B/a/1	£3,311
T1B/c/4	£3,321						

Materials Facility Charge

Where the operator of a materials facility has given a notification under paragraph 1 of Schedule 9A of the Regulations, a charge of £2,065 shall be payable for the calendar year in which the notification is made. Where a notification is in force for only part of a year, the charge will be adjusted pro rata.

Mining Waste

Guidance in this section covers charges for waste facilities, but you may wish to read this in conjunction with other sections of this document such as [Background to Charging](#) and [What We Charge For](#), covering the general aspects of permits and charging before reading this section.

You may also need a groundwater activity or water discharge activity as part of your mining waste operation permit. Full details of charges for groundwater activities (land spreading) can be found on [page 46](#) and for water discharge activities and groundwater activities (point source) on [page 48](#).

Charges for permits for mining waste operations are either tier 2:

- a mining waste operation that does not include a category A mining waste facility or a mining waste facility involving management of hazardous extractive waste
- standard rules (management of inert extractive wastes)
- bespoke mining waste operation (inert)
- bespoke mining waste operation (not inert, non-hazardous)

Or tier 3:

- a bespoke mining waste operation which includes a category A mining waste facility, or
- a mining waste operation involving the management of hazardous waste

Note: the charge for a mining waste operation is the same regardless of how many mining waste facilities are included in the operation. References to facility throughout the Charging Scheme and guidance only refer to mining waste facility where explicitly stated.

Charges for a tier 3 mining waste operation application, variation or surrender are linked to the mining waste OPRA profile. All other charges are fixed.

A mining waste operation may be included in the same permit as another regulated facility at the same site. This will frequently be a water discharge or groundwater activity, but could also be an installation or waste operation.

In all cases a separate charge is applicable for the mining waste operation as well as the other regulated facility.

We expect many new mining waste operation permit applications to be made as applications to vary an existing environmental permit, usually an existing water discharge permit. In all cases the variation application charge will be equivalent to the relevant application charge for a new mining waste operation. When adding a new regulated facility to a permit, the variation charge reflects the activity being added not the pre-existing activity.

The subsistence charge for the new permit will be the sum of the pre-existing subsistence charge plus the subsistence charge for the mining waste operation.

For a mining waste operation where there is an existing water discharge consent in place and the operation would meet all the requirements of the published standard rules, apart from the condition about no integral point source discharge, we will allow the application process and charges to be the same as though the standard rules were being applied for.

The following information on default charges is specific to mining waste:

For standard permits introduced after 1 April 2016.

New standard permits will be placed into the most appropriate existing charge band. We will identify the charge for each new proposed standard permit when we consult on the permit and confirm our response.

The charge bands accorded to a default standard facility will be selected from the following table:

Table 31

Charge bands available for a mining waste default standard facility							
Charge band	Application charge	Charge band	Transfer charge	Charge band	Surrender charge	Charge band	Subsistence charge
S030A (W)	£400	S035T (W)	£718	S040S (W)	£543	S030C (W)	£156
S040A (W)	£718	S040T (W)	£974	S045S (W)	£1,538	S040C (W)	£308
S050A (W)	£974			S050S (W)	£2,532	S050C (W)	£523
S060A (W)	£1,630			S060S (W)	£3,588	S060C (W)	£779
S070A (W)	£1,948					S074C (W)	£1,281
						S080C (W)	£1,579
						S090C (W)	£2,040
						S100C (W)	£2,481
						S120C (W)	£3,413

Table 32

Mining Waste – tier 2 subsistence charge compliance band adjustment						
Compliance band	A	B	C	D	E	F
% of base charge	100%	100%	110%	125%	150%	300%

Table 33

Tier 3 Mining Waste charges	
Charge type	Charge method
Application charge	OPRA score from the OPRA weighting table multiplied by relevant OPRA multiplier
Subsistence charge	£3,936, adjusted for compliance
Variation charge (see page XX for administrative and minor technical variations)	OPRA score from the OPRA weighting table multiplied by relevant OPRA multiplier
Transfer charge	Part transfer £2,993 Full transfer £1,999
Surrender charge	OPRA score from the OPRA weighting table multiplied by relevant OPRA multiplier

Table 34

Mining Waste – OPRA weighting table						
Attribute	Band score					
	A	B	C	D	E	
Complexity			35			
Emissions	Air					
	Water					
	Land					
	Waste input			15		
	Sewer					
	Off-site waste					
Location		1	2	3	5	7
Operator performance		2	4	7	10	14

Table 35

Mining Waste – tier 3 OPRA charge multipliers	
Charge	Mining Waste Multiplier
Permit application charge	£171
Normal variation charge	£139
Subsistence charge	£139
Full surrender charge	£125
Part surrender charge	£125

Table 36

Mining Waste – tier 3 subsistence charge compliance band adjustment						
Compliance band	A	B	C	D	E	F
% of base charge	100%	100%	110%	125%	150%	300%

Mining waste charges summary

Table 37

Permit activity	Permit type	Rules No.	Application	Normal Variation	Part Transfer	Full Transfer	Full or partial surrender	Subsistence
Management of inert extractive wastes at mines and quarries	Tier 2	SR2009	£974	N/A	£974	£974	£543	£156
Management of inert extractive wastes at mines and quarries	Standard facility	No8	£974	£974	£974	£974	£543	£156

Inert Mining Waste operation	Tier 2 (bespoke - created through variation of a water discharge activity, to add conditions from SR2009No8)	N/A	£974	£974	£974	£974	£543	£523
Non-inert Mining Waste operation with a non-inert Mining Waste facility	Tier 2	N/A	£2,634	£1,958	£974	£974	£3,588	£994
Non-inert Mining Waste operation without a Mining Waste facility	(bespoke conditions)	N/A	£2,634	£1,958	£974	£974	£543	£994
Mining Waste operations which include a Category A Mining Waste facility or a Mining Waste facility involving the management of hazardous waste.	Tier 2	N/A	OPRA Score x OPRA multiplier (£171)	OPRA Score x OPRA multiplier (£139) (1)	£2,993	£1,999	OPRA Score	£3,936

(1) This rate also applies to a substantial variation

* See [page 13](#) for administrative and minor technical variations

Mobile Plant

Guidance in this section covers charges for waste facilities, but you may wish to read this in conjunction with other sections of this document such as [Background to Charging](#) and [What We Charge For](#), covering the general aspects of permits and charging before reading this section.

Charges for permits for mobile plant are either:

Tier 2

- standard rules permit for the treatment of waste soils and contaminated materials, substances and products
- standard rules permit for land spreading (for agricultural or ecological benefit)
- standard rules permit for reclamation, restoration or improvement of land
- standard rules permit for spreading of sewage sludge
- standard rules permit for the treatment of waste to produce soil, soil substitutes and aggregate

Or tier 3

- any other waste operation permitted as mobile plant defined as
 - land remediation
 - waste treatment, or
 - spreading of waste to land for recovery

Mobile plant are different to site based permits in that they have a simpler permit application process and surrender is simply by notification. Before the plant is deployed, a deployment form must be submitted and approved. We then need to monitor compliance. Some deployment charges are based on risk levels. Risk definitions can be found in the table on [page 46](#).

The following information on deployment charges is specific to mobile plant:

With site based permits we recover all the costs we incur in the ongoing regulation of a facility through annual subsistence charges that may be adjusted by the compliance performance of the respective facility. For mobile plant permits there is no ongoing annual subsistence. Instead a charge is applicable for each deployment notification submitted. This is payable at the same time as the deployment is notified for assessment, when the application is made.

The income generated will ensure we recover the costs of properly assessing all types of deployments and also undertake a level of monitoring of compliance that is proportionate to the environmental risk. Compliance monitoring is especially important for mobile plant permits as the surrender requirements are so minimal.

Compliance of deployments made during 2015 have been scored in the usual way and an operator’s deployment charge will be adjusted in accordance with performance, where applicable, from April 2016 at the following rates:

Table 38

Mobile Plant – tier 2 subsistence charge compliance band adjustment						
Compliance band	A	B	C	D	E	F
% of base charge	100%	100%	110%	125%	150%	300%

Table 39

Mobile Plant – tier 3 subsistence charge compliance band adjustment						
Compliance band	A	B	C	D	E	F
% of base charge	95%	100%	110%	125%	150%	300%

Each land remediation deployment covers a period of up to 12 months from first deployment.

The deployment charge for all other types of mobile plant covers a period of up to 12 months from when it is agreed, ie the charge is per deployment or per annum if the deployment lasts longer than 12 months.

For SR2010no4 and SR2010no5 one deployment is limited to 50 hectares and a maximum of 10 waste streams. For SR2010no6 one deployment is limited to 50 hectares.

The following information on default charges is specific to waste facilities:

For standard permits introduced after 1 April 2016.

New standard permits will be placed into the most appropriate existing charge band. We will identify the charge for each new proposed standard permit when we consult on the permit and confirm our response.

The charge bands accorded to a default standard facility will be selected from the following table:

Table 40

Charge bands available for a mobile waste default standard facility							
Charge band	Application charge	Charge band	Transfer charge	Charge band	Surrender charge	Charge band	Subsistence charge
S030A (W)	£400	S035T (W)	£718	S040S (W)	£543	S045C	£410
S040A (W)	£718	S040T (W)	£974	S045S (W)	£1,538	S060C	£779
S050A (W)	£974			S050S (W)	£2,532	S070C	£994
S060A (W)	£1,630			S060S (W)	£3,588	S074C	£1,281
S070A (W)	£1,948					S100C	£2,481

Table 41

Tier 3 mobile plant charges	
Charge type	Charge method
Application charge	OPRA score from OPRA weighting table multiplied by relevant OPRA multiplier. See tables 42 and 43 below.
Deployment charge	Fixed rate adjusted for compliance. See tables 39 and 44.
Variation charge – see section 4 for administrative and minor technical variations	OPRA score from OPRA weighting table multiplied by relevant OPRA multiplier. See tables 42 and 43 below.
Transfer charge	Fixed rate see table 44. Full transfer only.

Table 42

Mobile Plant – waste operations – OPRA weighting table						
Attribute		Band score				
		A	B	C	D	E
Complexity	Note each activity is scored	4	10	35	50	65
Emissions	Air					
	Water					
	Land					
	Waste input		7			
	Sewer					
	Off-site waste					
Location		1				
Operator performance		2	4	7	10	14

Table 43

Mobile Plant – tier 3 OPRA charge multipliers	
Charge	Waste operation
	Multiplier
Permit application charge	£171
Normal variation charge	£139

Table 44

Mobile Plant - charges summary							Subsistence charge payable on submission of an application to deploy		
Permit activity	Permit type	Rules No. (where applicable)	Application	Normal Variation	Full Transfer	Lower risk deployment	Medium risk deployment	Higher risk deployment	
Mobile plant for the treatment of waste soils & contaminated materials, substances or products	Tier 2 Standard facility	SR2008 No27	£718	N/A	£718	£2481			
Mobile plant for land spreading (for agricultural or ecological benefit)	Tier 2 Standard facility	SR2010 No4				£410	£779	£994	
Mobile plant for reclamation, restoration or improvement of land	Tier 2 Standard facility	SR2010 No5				N/A	£779	£994	
Mobile plant for land spreading of sewage sludge	Tier 2 Standard facility	SR2010 No6				N/A	£779	£994	
Mobile plant for the treatment of waste to produce soil, soil substitutes and aggregate	Tier 2 Standard facility	SR2010 No11				£410	£779	N/A	
Waste facility mobile plant used for waste land remediation	Tier 3 Bespoke	N/A	OPRA score x OPRA multiplier (£171)	OPRA score x OPRA multiplier (£139)	£1,999	£2481			
Waste facility mobile plant used for spreading waste to land for recovery	Tier 3 Bespoke	N/A				£410	£779	£994	
Waste facility mobile plant used for waste treatment	Tier 3 Bespoke	N/A				£2481			

Table 45

Mobile Plant – risk definitions (where differences apply)			
Facility type	Lower risk deployment	Medium risk deployment	Higher risk deployment
SR2010No4 Mobile plant for land spreading (for agricultural or ecological benefit)	List A wastes outside of Source Protection Zone 2 and not within 500m of a European site / Ramsar or SSSI site	List A wastes within Source Protection Zone 2 or within 500m of a European site / Ramsar or SSSI site List B wastes outside of Source Protection Zone 2 and not within 500m of a European site / Ramsar or SSSI site Any single list B waste within Source Protection Zone 2 or within 500m of a European site / Ramsar or SSSI site	List B wastes within Source Protection Zone 2 or within 500m of a European site / Ramsar or SSSI site
SR2010No5 Mobile plant for reclamation, restoration or improvement of land SR2010No6 Mobile plant for land spreading of sewage sludge	N/A	Any listed wastes outside Source Protection Zone 2 and not within 500m of a European site / Ramsar or SSSI site	Any listed wastes within Source Protection Zone 2 or within 500m of a European site / Ramsar or SSSI site
SR 2010No11 Mobile plant for the treatment of waste to produce soil, soil substitutes and aggregate	Any permitted wastes at a site outside of Source Protection Zone 1 or 2 and not within 500m of a European site / Ramsar or SSSI site	Any permitted wastes at a site within a Source Protection Zone 1 or 2 or within 500m of a European site / Ramsar or SSSI site	N/A
Any waste spread to land for recovery	“lower risk”, “medium risk” and “higher risk” in relation to the deployment of waste mobile plant, have the same meanings as above, except that where the waste to be treated in that deployment is not listed in standard rules SR2010_No4, SR2010No5 or SR2010No6, the deployment shall be deemed to be “higher risk”		

Groundwater activities (land spreading)

Not applicable to land spreading of waste under deployments

This covers charges for groundwater activities relating to the discharge of used sheep dip, waste pesticide washings, solids or other waste substances. These may be standalone permits for groundwater activities or part of another permit, for example mining waste operation. Charges for environmental permits for other groundwater activities, such as the point source discharge of treated sewage effluent to ground are covered in the next section on [page 48](#).

In the context of previous legislation, the charge for any permit that was previously charged under the Groundwater Regulations 2009 is described in this section. The charge for any groundwater activity that was previously consented under the Water Resources Act

1991 is covered on page 48 Water discharge activities and groundwater (point source) activities.

It is important that you are familiar with sections 1-3 covering the general aspects of permits and charging before reading this section.

Groundwater charges are from tier 2 of the UCF and are fixed charges.

Under our risk based Charging Scheme charges are modified by how well or how poorly an operator complies with their permit. However for 2016/17 we do not propose to introduce any adjustment to our charges based upon compliance.

The following information on applications is specific to groundwater (land spreading) activities:

When your application is issued it will contain an effective date and subsistence charges will be applied from that date.

Pre application advice is aimed to be kept to a minimum as there is currently no charge levied.

The following information on variations is specific to groundwater (land spreading) activities:

A special low value charge of £75 is available to cover migrations from an existing permit for small volume liquid discharges to standard permit 2010no19.

The following information on default charges is specific to groundwater (land spreading) activities:

For standard permits introduced after 1 April 2016.

New standard permits will be placed into the most appropriate existing charge band. We will identify the charge for each new proposed standard permit when we consult on the permit and confirm our response.

The charge bands accorded to a default standard facility will be selected from the following table:

Groundwater activities – charges for solid discharges						
Permit name	Solid mass	Application charge	Normal variation	Transfer charge	Surrender charge	Subsistence charge
Small solid discharges (bespoke)	Less than or equal to 8 tonnes	£700	£370	£0	£0	£300

Table 46

Medium solid discharges (bespoke)	Greater than 8 but less than or equal to 100 tonnes	£1590	£530	£0	£0	£510
Large solid discharges (bespoke)	Greater than 100 tonnes	£7190	£2400	£0	£0	£3840

Water Discharge Activities (WDA) and Groundwater Activities (point source)

Water discharge activities and groundwater activities (point source) are one of the regimes that are incorporated under the Environmental Permitting (England and Wales) Regulations 2010. All extant discharge consents (which did not automatically become exempt registrations) automatically migrated to bespoke environmental permits on 6 April 2010.

You may wish to read other sections of this document such as [Background to Charging](#) and [What We Charge For](#), covering the general aspects of permits and charging before reading this section.

Charges for permits for WDA and groundwater activities (point source) are for either:

- standard rules permits for discharges to surface water from cooling water and heat exchangers – SR2010no2
- standard rules permits for discharge to surface water of secondary treated domestic sewage with a maximum daily volume between 5 and 20 cubic metres per day – SR2010no3, or
- bespoke permits for any other discharge to surface water or groundwater

As an interim measure these permits will continue to be charged for subsistence using the established formulaic method of:

- volume factor
- content factor
- receiving water factor
- charge multiplier

In future these permits are expected to migrate to the UCF and be subject to tier 2 and tier 3 charging arrangements. Further guidance on the application can be found on our website.

Table 47

Groundwater activities – charges for liquid discharges							
Permit type	Sheep dip volume	Pesticide washings	Application charge	Normal variation	Transfer charge	Surrender charge	Subsistence charge
Small liquid discharges	Less than or equal to 10m ³ /yr	All volumes	£390	£75	£0	£0	£153.90
Medium liquid discharges	Greater than 10m ³ /yr but less than or equal to 50m ³ /yr	N/A	£600	£370	£0	£0	£510
Large liquid discharges	Greater than 50m ³ /yr	N/A	£960	£530	£0	£0	£3840

The following information on applications is specific to water discharge activities and groundwater activities (point source):

The standard application charge is payable except when the reduced application charge is payable.

Pre application advice is aimed to be kept to a minimum as there is currently no charge levied.

If you want to amend an application before it has been determined in a way that will require further public consultation, for example if there is a change to the proposed operator, then you have to pay another application charge.

The following information on subsistence is specific to water discharge activities and groundwater activities (point source):

If a permit is issued during the financial year it is chargeable from the effective date. A bespoke permit can only be charged from a later date if the discharge has not yet commenced and the permit specifies a future start date or requires prior notice to be given. This does not apply to standard rules permits so these should not be applied for until they are required.

The following information on variations is specific to water discharge activities and groundwater activities (point source):

Changes not classed as administrative variations will be charged for at the appropriate standard or reduced variation charge rates as listed the table 50. There may be some cases where we may agree to amend the permit as a Natural Resources Wales led variation, for example:

- a variation which requires any technical assessment or consultation is not an administrative only variation unless an assessment under the groundwater permit

review, which will be regulator initiated variations. Multiple or frequent requests for administrative changes on a significant number of permits or for one permit within a short time period will not be considered reasonable as administrative variations for the purpose of being free of charge

- if Natural Resources Wales does not agree that it is an administrative variation, for example there is no environmental benefit or uses our resources unnecessarily and is of no material consequence

Table 48

WDA and Groundwater activities (point source) – charges	
Charge type	Charge
Standard application and variation charge*	£885
Reduced application and variation charge*(1)	£125
Annual charge financial factor	£684

*see [page 13](#) for administrative variations

(1) the reduced charge applies where the effluent is any of the following:

- sewage effluent where the proposed volume is 5 cubic metres or less per day
- sewage effluent which contains trade effluent or other matter where the proposed volume is 5 cubic metres or less per day
- trade effluent from cooling or heat exchange where the proposed volume is 10 cubic metres or less per day
- surface water not containing trade effluent
- site drainage

The following information on default charges is specific to water discharge activities and groundwater activities (point source):

For standard permits introduced after 1 April 2016.

New standard permits will be placed into the most appropriate existing charge band. We will identify the charge for each new proposed standard permit when we consult on the permit and confirm our response.

Radioactive substances activities

Before reading this section you need to know what permits you require or that you already hold. If you aren't sure what you need to apply for see the flow chart at [appendix 1](#).

Permit application forms can be obtained from our website or as a hard copy by phoning 0300 065 3000.

You may also wish to read this section in conjunction with other sections of this document such as [Background to Charging](#) and [What We Charge For](#), covering the general aspects of permits and charging before reading this section and the section on [Transfrontier Shipments](#) under Part B.

Permits for radioactive substances activities are either:

Tier 2

- standard facilities
- bespoke permits for medium risk activities

Charges in tier 2 are fixed. The allocation of these fixed charges has been based upon the RSR tier 2 OPRA scheme referenced on our website.

Radioactive substances facilities listed in the table below are those that incur tier 2 charges. A facility that is not on this list will be subject to tier 3 charges. The standard facility covers the holding of category 5 sealed sources but this does not mean your current fixed condition registration for the same activity is automatically a standard permit. To become a standard permit you need to apply and demonstrate that you meet the standard rules criteria.

Mobile radioactive apparatus

These permits incur tier 2 charges. Our charges for sealed source permits are calculated on a single site or premises basis. This means that for mobile radioactive apparatus in the form of sealed sources you will need a separate permit for each site or premises where mobile radioactive apparatus is normally kept when not in use.

Table 49

Radioactive substances activities – tier 2 permit types	
Radioactive substances activities covered	Permit Type
Standard facility for source category 5	A
Keeping and use of one or more sealed sources where each source, and all sources taken together, fall within source category 5 and/or accumulation and/or disposal of waste sealed sources	B
Keeping and use of one or more similar sources and/or accumulation and/or disposal of waste sealed sources	C
Keeping and use of one or more high activity sources and/or accumulation and/or disposal	D
Keeping and use of open radioactive sources only	E
Keeping and use of open radioactive sources and/or accumulation and/or disposal or radioactive waste – low quantity	F
Keeping and use of open radioactive sources and/or accumulation and/or disposal of radioactive waste – not being low quantity or high complexity	G
Keeping and use of open radioactive sources and/or accumulation and/or disposal or radioactive waste – high complexity	H

“high complexity” means the site is used for the production of gaseous tritium light devices (GTLD) or gaseous tritium light sources (GTLS), or discharges or disposals are above a threshold of 30,000 as calculated using the method in RSR tier 2 OPRA scheme referenced on our [website](#).

“low quantity” means the total holdings of open source radioactive materials does not exceed 10GBq of technetium-99m or 20MBq of other radionuclides.

Radioactive waste treatment and/or disposal activities where the operator does not keep and use open sources are not “low quantity”.

The regulation of radiological detection systems operated by the Secretary of State for Home Affairs (UK Border Agency) requires a non-standard approach to permitting. Some current permits separately cover the keeping and use of sources and the disposal of radioactive waste. For charging purposes these are considered to be equivalent of permit types C and F respectively. In the future we will issue combined permits for holding and

disposing of sealed and open sources and applications for new, varied or transferred permits will be treated as permit type G for charging purposes.

The regulation of the holding and disposal of some radioactive materials at museums also requires a non-standard approach. Museums keeping and using small quantities of radium-226 (less than 400MBq) will be issued with a single permit covering both open and sealed sources. These will be treated as permit type E for charging purposes. Museums with larger holdings will be separately permitted for open and sealed sources.

Tier 3

Tier 3 covers more complex and high risk facilities that require more details and individually tailored permits. Radioactive substances facilities that are not in tier 2 are in tier 3. This includes all radioactive substances facilities on nuclear licensed sites and all radioactive substances facilities permitted to receive low level radioactive waste for disposal into land at the facility.

Tier 3 does not include permits which:

- authorise the disposal of low level radioactive waste by transfer to landfill sites at a premises which is different from the operator's
- authorise the disposal of low level radioactive waste by transfer to dedicated land disposal facilities for radioactive waste at a premises which is different from the operator's
- authorise the disposal of low level radioactive waste by direct disposal into landfill sites at premises which is different from the operator's. This category was previously known as special precautions burial or controlled burial.

The Charging Scheme uses the term 'specified radioactive substances activities' to define these more complex and high risk radioactive substances facilities rather than term 'tier 3'. This is because charges for 'specified radioactive substances activities' are assessed on a different basis from the other tier 3 Environmental Permitting Regulations permits, being based on actual time spent and costs incurred. We use the term tier 3 in the guidance because it properly reflects the permit type.

Tier 3 charges

Charges for tier 3 radioactive substances facilities are calculated and billed to operators on the basis of actual time spent and costs incurred in relation to applications, variations, transfers, surrenders and the subsistence of permits relating to each individual site by Natural Resources Wales and by the Foods Standards Agency, where appropriate. We will write to operators giving an indicative estimate of Natural Resources Wales and Food Standards Agency costs for each site.

In order to keep charging arrangements simple, selected front line specialist nuclear regulation staff time is recorded and used to calculate our tariff for key technical work. The hourly rate of £213 includes an allowance for support staff as well as those involved in policy support, provision of legal advice and some other technical support whose time is not recorded for charging purposes. The rate also allows for other relevant costs and includes but is not limited to, accommodation, ICT support systems, health and safety, production of guidance, financial services and other support costs.

There is a lower rate of £125 per hour for support technical work undertaken by selected technical staff who are not specialist nuclear regulators, including policy support where significant additional effort is required, such as for nuclear new build developments.

We recover from operators our costs associated with meeting our international reporting obligations relating to the disposal of radioactive waste into the environment from tier 3 radioactive substances facilities. This includes Euratom Articles 35 and 36 monitoring and reporting and our work in support of Oslo and Paris Commission reporting obligations. We may also recover the costs of contracted-in specialist technical support where required to support our regulation of RSR tier 3 sites.

The following information on applications is specific to radioactive substances activities:

If the facility you are applying for is subject to tier 3 charges you will be invoiced for the costs of our time and materials in determining the application quarterly in arrears. The hourly rate is either £213 or £125 as above.

The following information on subsistence is specific to radioactive substances activities:

For tier 3 permits you will be invoiced for subsistence charges based upon the costs of our time and materials quarterly in arrears. The hourly rate is either £213 or £125 as above.

The following information on variations is specific to radioactive substances activities:

Operators wishing to change the address of premises where mobile radioactive apparatus is kept when not in use may do this by applying for a normal variation.

The only variation it is possible to make to a standard facility is administrative. If you want to make a more significant change to your facility you would have to apply for a variation to a bespoke permit. The charge for such a change is the appropriate tier 2 variation charge.

If you have several permits for one or more radioactive substances facilities on a single site you may be able to have some or all of them consolidated into a single permit, subject to our approval. Please contact your local RSR Regulatory Officer to discuss. Where the consolidation is in respect of tier 2 permits and is solely for the purposes of the transfer of a consolidated permit to another operator there is no charge for the variation. Where the consolidation is in respect of an RSA93 open source registration and a tier 2 RSA93 authorisation other than for the purposes of its transfer to another operator it is a minor technical change. In all other cases for tier 2 permits the variation charge will be the charge listed for the resulting permit.

For tier 3 permits you will be invoiced for variation charges based upon the costs of our time and materials quarterly in arrears. The hourly rate is either £213 or £125.

The following information on transfers is specific to radioactive substances activities:

For tier 3 permits you will be invoiced for transfer charges based upon the costs of our time and materials quarterly in arrears. The hourly rate is either £213 or £125.

Surrenders – tier 2

The charge for a partial surrender is the same as the charges for a full surrender.

If you apply for a partial surrender the charge you pay is that which relates to the permit type before the partial surrender takes place.

If you apply to surrender a permit that has previously had its permit category reduced by administrative variation then the surrender charge payable is that relating to the permit category before that or any other such administrative variation.

If you apply to surrender an RSA 93 open source registration and an RSA93 radioactive waste authorisation at the same time, you only need to pay one surrender charge, the charge that would be payable if the permits had been consolidated.

If you apply to surrender an RSA93 sealed source registration and an RSA93 mobile sealed source registration at the same time, you only need to pay one surrender charge, the charge that would be payable if the permits had been consolidated.

Where you hold a tier 2 permit for the ‘keeping and use of open radioactive sources and/or accumulation and/or disposal of radioactive waste – high complexity’ or ‘keeping and use of open radioactive sources and/or accumulation and/or disposal of radioactive waste – not being low quantity or high complexity’ and you are able to demonstrate that environmental contamination cannot have resulted from the radioactive substances activity, then the surrender charge is a fixed charge of £530. That demonstration may be that radioactive substances activities never commenced or that only short half-life radionuclides were ever used. If we need to advise on or consider environmental monitoring reports the full charge applies.

If you want to surrender all of a tier 2 permit where operations have not commenced then you will have to pay a charge.

Surrenders - Tier 3

Applications to surrender all or part of a tier 3 permit where operations have not commenced will be charged on a time and materials basis. The hourly rate is £213 or £125.

Default charges

For standard permits introduced after 1 April 2016.

New standard permits will be placed into the most appropriate existing charge band. We will identify the charge for each new proposed standard permit when we consult on the permit and confirm our response.

The charge bands accorded to a default standard facility will be selected from the following table:

Table 50

Charge bands available for radioactive substances activities default standard facility							
Charge band	Application charge	Charge band	Transfer charge	Charge band	Surrender charge	Charge band	Subsistence charge
S030A	£390	S035T	£700	S040S	£530	S030C	£152
S040A	£700	S040T	£950	S045S	£1,500	S040C	£300
S050A	£950			S050S	£2,470	S050C	£510
S060A	£1,590			S060S	£3,500	S060C	£760
S070A	£1,900					S074C	£1,250
						S080C	£1,540
						S090C	£1,990
						S100C	£2,420
						S120C	£3,330

Table 51

Radioactive Substances Activities - tier 2 fixed charges for application, variation, transfer and surrender					
Permit type		Application	Normal variation	Transfer	Surrender
A	SR2010no1	£390	N/A	£120	£125
B	Bespoke	£600	£530	£370	£125
C	Bespoke	£1590	£950	£530	£370
D	Bespoke	£2000	£1910	£950	£370
E	Bespoke	£600	£530	£370	£125
F	Bespoke	£2000	£950	£530	£370
G	Bespoke	£2880	£1910	£950	£2470*
H	Bespoke	£3650	£2400	£1950	£2470*

*£530 if low risk surrender charge applies

Table 52

Radioactive Substances Activities - tier 2 subsistence charges						
Radioactive substances activities (RSA) involving the keeping, use, accumulation and disposal of sealed radioactive sources						
		No relevant RSA	Relevant RSA covered by permit type A	Relevant RSA covered by permit type B	Relevant RSA covered by permit type C	Relevant RSA covered by permit type D
Radioactive substances activities (RSA) involving the keeping, use,	No relevant RSA		£300 or £96*	£300 or £96*	£1,250	£1,450
	Relevant RSA covered by permit type E	£300	£300	£300	£1,250	£1,450

accumulation and disposal of open radioactive sources	Relevant RSA covered by permit type F	£510	£510	£510	£1,450	£1,990
	Relevant RSA covered by permit type G	£1,450	£1,990	£1,990	£2,420	£3,330
	Relevant RSA covered by permit type H	£2,830	£3,330	£3,330	£3,840	£3,840

*If a tier 2 permit solely covers the keeping and use of gaseous tritium light devices (GTLD) or gaseous tritium light sources (GTLS) where each source, and all sources taken together, fall within source category 5 then there is the subsistence charge of £96.

To determine the subsistence charge for a site:

- identify the row describing open source use
- identify the column describing sealed source use
- the subsistence charge is that shown at the intersection of the row and the column

Table 53

Radioactive Substances Activities - tier 3 charges	
Charge	Hourly rate
Application, variation, transfer and surrender charges invoiced for the costs of our time and materials in determining the application (quarterly in arrears)	£213 (1)
Subsistence charges invoiced for costs of our time and materials (quarterly in arrears)	£213 (1)
Independent monitoring charges	Cost recovery charging

(1) Lower rate of £125 may apply for support technical work undertaken by selected technical staff who are not specialist nuclear regulators, including policy support where significant additional effort is required.

Flood Risk Activities

Flood risk activities are one of the regimes that are incorporated under the Environmental Permitting (England and Wales) Regulations 2010. All extant flood defence consents, which did not become exempt registrations, automatically migrated to bespoke flood risk activity permits on 6 April 2016. Guidance in this section covers charges for flood risk activity permits.

Application charge

The standard application charge is payable for all bespoke flood risk activity permit applications except when the reduced application charge is payable due to meeting the requirements for a multi flood risk activity permit.

Part F3 – Charging for flood risk activities and associated guidance notes provide information and guidance on which charging band is applicable to which flood risk activity.

The charge depends upon the complexity of the activity itself and the location of the flood risk activity from a flood risk and environmental protection perspective.

Applications for new bespoke flood risk activity permits will be subject to a charge from the following table:

Table 54

Band	Charge	Pre-application allowance included in charge
Low	£230	1 hour
Medium	£320	2 hours
High	£500	3 hours

Multi flood risk activity permit application charge

You may be eligible for a cost reduction if you apply for a permit that covers multiple flood risk activity structures. This will be applicable if the following conditions are met:

- same applicant
- same activity
- applications received at the same time
- same site/vicinity
- same site characteristics

If the above conditions are met we will charge the full application charge for the first flood risk activity. For each subsequent flood risk activity that requires a permit and meets the conditions set out above, we will offer a 70% reduction in cost.

Table 55

Band	First activity	Second activity*	Each subsequent activity*	Total charge payable
Low	£230	£69	£69	Addition of each activity charge
Medium	£320	£96	£96	Addition of each activity charge
High	£500	£150	£150	Addition of each activity charge

*If criteria is met for a multi flood risk activity permit

Please contact us for further advice if you consider your permit meets the requirements for a cost reduction from a multi flood risk activity permit.

Compliance charge

Table 56

Band	Charge
Low	£40
Medium	£40
High	£40
Multi	£40

There will be a flat rate fee for compliance checking for flood risk activity permits or multi flood risk activity permits. This will be a one-off charge collected at the application stage. This will be the only charge for subsistence to assess compliance with the permit conditions.

There will be a zero rate charge for flood risk activity permit variation and surrender.

Part B

Registrations and environmental permitting miscellaneous charges

These are charges that do not relate to environmental permits. This part covers:

- Waste carriers, brokers and dealers
- Exempt waste operations (renewals of the scrap metal exemption paragraph 45 and renewals of notifiable exemptions)
- International waste shipments
- Producer responsibility – waste electrical and electronic equipment
- Producer responsibility – waste batteries and accumulators
- Transfrontier Shipment of Radioactive Waste and Spent Fuel Regulations 2008

If you only undertake these activities then this section covers all you need to calculate your charge. For details of payment arrangements see 6. Payments and further information.

Note: there is no charge for registration of small sewage discharges to surface water and groundwater. Specific advice for these can be found on our website.

Waste carriers, brokers and dealers

If you are a carrier, broker or dealer of controlled waste you need to register with us.

Table 57

Register as an upper tier waste carrier/dealer, broker/dealer or carrier/broker/dealer	£154
Change an existing upper tier registration type, for example from a carrier/dealer to a broker/dealer	£40
Renewal of an existing upper tier registration (every 3 years)	£105
A copy of the identification card proving registration	£5
Lower tier registrations	free

Exempt waste operations

Register for T11 waste electrical and electronic equipment exemption (payable every three years)	£840
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You can no longer apply for a new paragraph 45 scrap metal exemption.

International waste shipments

The Transfrontier Shipment of Waste Regulations require a company to pay a charge at the same time as providing a notification for the proposed international shipment of waste. The charge depends on:

- whether the waste is being imported to or exported from the UK
- whether the shipment is for recovery or disposal
- the band the number of shipments falls within.

Table 58

Activity	Number of shipments					
	1	2 to 5	6 to 20	21 to 100	101 to 500	500+
Export for recovery	£1,450	£1,450	£2,700	£4,070	£7,920	£14,380
Export for non-interim disposal	£1,540	£1,540	£3,330	£5,500	£10,600	£19,500
Export for interim disposal	£1,700	£1,700	£3,330	£6,000	£12,900	£24,000
Import for non-interim recovery	£1,250	£1,250	£2,700	£4,900	£10,600	£19,500
Import for interim recovery	£1,450	£1,450	£2,830	£5,500	£12,900	£24,000
Import for non-interim disposal	£1,540	£1,540	£3,330	£5,500	£10,600	£19,500
Import for interim disposal	£1,700	£1,700	£3,330	£6,000	£12,900	£24,000

Waste electrical and electronic equipment

The Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment Regulations require companies that wish to operate a compliance scheme to make an application to the appropriate environmental regulator. If your company's registered office or principal place of business is within Wales then you will need to make an application through Natural Resources Wales.

Table 59

Application for a new compliance scheme	£12,150
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The annual charge for operating a compliance scheme is the sum of the charges for each member in each charge band.

Table 60

Band A (more than £1million turnover)	£445
Band B (£1million turnover or less and required to be VAT registered)	£210
Band C (not required to be VAT registered)	£30
Band D overseas company (not required to be VAT registered)	£30

Example: for a compliance scheme with 4 companies in band A, 5 in band B and 10 in band C the charge is calculated as follows:

Band	Number of companies	Charge per company	Total for each company
A	4	£445	£1,780
B	5	£210	£1,050
C	10	£30	£300
D	0	£30	-
		Total charge	£3,130

Table 61

Treatment or export facility operators	
Large treatment operator (more than 400 tonnes of waste)	£2,570
Small treatment operator (less than 400 tonnes of waste)	£500
Large export operator (more than 400 tonnes of waste)	£2,570
Small export operator (less than 400 tonnes of waste)	£500
Additional charge (where a small operator or exporter exceeds 400 tonnes)	£2,070
Extension of approval of exporter – each additional site	£110

Waste batteries and accumulators

The Waste Batteries and Accumulators Regulations require producers of portable batteries to either register directly with Natural Resources Wales (small producers) or join a Battery Compliance Scheme (large producers).

Table 62

Small producers (less than 1 tonne of portable batteries per year to the UK market)	£30
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Large producers (those placing more than 1 tonne of portable batteries per year on the UK market) do not pay a fee directly to Natural Resources Wales. Instead they may be charged an annual membership fee by the Battery Compliance Scheme they join. The Battery Compliance Scheme must then pay Natural Resources Wales £600 for each member they have.

Battery Compliance Scheme operators

If your company's registered office or principal place of business is within Wales then you'll need to make an application through Natural Resources Wales.

Table 63

Assessment of application to operate a Battery Compliance Scheme	£17,000
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The annual charge for operating a Battery Compliance Scheme is the sum of the subsistence charge plus the sum of the charges for each member of the scheme:

Table 64

Annual subsistence charge for operating a Battery Compliance Scheme	£90,000
Charge for each member of the Battery Compliance Scheme	£600

Table 65

Battery treatment operators and battery exporters	
Large battery treatment operator	£2,570
Small battery treatment operator	£500
Large battery exporter	£2,570
Small battery exporter	£500
Additional charge to small battery treatment operator or exporter that exceeds its undertaking	£2,070
Extension of approval of exporter – each additional site	£110

A small battery treatment operator or exporter is an operator who has undertaken to issue no more than 15 tonnes of waste portable battery evidence notes and to accept no more than 150 tonnes of waste automotive and industrial batteries in the year in which the relevant charge is payable. Additional charges apply where this undertaking is exceeded.

Transfrontier Shipment of Radioactive Waste and Spent Fuel Regulations 2008

Natural Resources Wales is the competent authority in Wales for the transfrontier shipment of radioactive waste or spent fuel and are responsible for determining applications for authorisation of a shipment.

In some cases we are asked by another member state of the European Union to consent to a shipment.

The Environment Act 1995 as amended by the Natural Resources Body for Wales (Functions) Order 2013, allows us to recover our costs in carrying out our functions under these Regulations. Our charges are based on actual time spent and costs incurred for work relating to authorisations and consents under the Regulations.

The hourly rate is £125. This includes an allowance for staff whose time is not recorded for charging purposes; these include support staff as well as those involved in policy support, provision of legal advice and other technical support. The rate also allows for other relevant costs including accommodation, IT support systems, health and safety, production of advice, financial services and other support costs.

We will invoice applicants/intended recipients of authorisations and consents for the appropriate charge.

Payment of charges

Method and terms of payment

You must submit payments for applications for new permits, variations, surrenders, transfers, deployments, registrations and renewals with the application paperwork and send them to:

Permit Receipt Centre
Natural Resources Wales
Cambria House
29 Newport Road
Cardiff
CF24 0TP

Tel: 0300 065 3000

You can pay by cheque, credit or debit card by filling in the associated form. If you wish to pay by credit or debit card over the phone we will contact you when we receive your application.

Other payments

This applies to payments for subsistence charges, time and materials charges and charges made under our non-scheme charging powers such as pre application advice or advertisements.

For these types of charges we will send an invoice to the contact and address as advised by you. You can pay by cheque, credit or debit card, electronic transfer (BACS or CHAPS), bank giro credit or in the case of subsistence charges, by direct debit. Full details on how to make your payment can be found on the back of your invoice.

VAT

All charges quoted in the scheme and guidance are exempt from VAT.

Withdrawn applications

If you withdraw an application we reserve the right to retain the application charge in full and make no refund. We will not normally make a refund if the application is withdrawn more than 56 calendar days after it has been duly made. This is because a detailed assessment of the application will have commenced by this stage of the determination.

Where an application is submitted for a facility which is subsequently deemed to be exempt from regulation by reason of amendment to the Environmental Permitting Regulations, provided no permit has been issued we will make a full refund of the application charge. Refunds of application charges will not normally be made after permits have been issued.

Non payment of charges

An application which is not accompanied by the appropriate charge is not deemed to be 'duly made' and so cannot be determined. If the charge submitted is insufficient you will be advised accordingly and asked to pay the balance. We will be unable to determine the

application and will not issue a new or revised permit if any part of an application charge is outstanding. If a subsistence charge is not paid when due we may revoke or suspend the permit and take action to recover the debt.

Abatement of charges

Natural Resources Wales has the provision to waive or reduce any charge specified in the scheme it considers to be significantly disproportionate in a particular case, with regard to the actual costs and expenses incurred, or to be incurred, by Natural Resources Wales.

Natural Resources Wales considers charges in the following categories to be applicable:

- charges it considers to be significantly disproportionate with regard to the costs and expenses incurred, or to be incurred, by Natural Resources Wales
- subsistence charges for mothballed sites, subject to a maximum of two financial years
- OPRA band F adjustments it considered to be significantly disproportionate with regard to the costs and expenses incurred, or to be incurred, by Natural Resources Wales.

Facilities falling within band F will be assessed on an individual basis to determine whether the determined charge is representative of the cost to Natural Resources Wales to regulate the site. Where the band F determined subsistence charge is greater than that required to achieve cost recovery, a cap will be placed on the levied subsistence charge and will be displayed on the issued subsistence bill.

When charges are due

Registrations and Environmental Permitting miscellaneous charges:

- Application and renewal charges are due on the date that the application is made
- Notification charges are payable on notification. This includes waste batteries and accumulators small producer charge required to accompany the submission of information required by the Waste Batteries and Accumulators Regulations.

Permits

Table 66

Permits	
Type	Due
New permit application charge	Date the application is made
Variation application charge	
Transfer application charge	
Surrender application charge	
Variation charge initiated by regulator	Payable on invoice served
Subsistence charge	Annually on 1 April. Payable on demand in the first year in which a permit is granted, or when a pro-rata invoice is issued.
Deployment application charge	Payable on notification of each deployment
Radioactive substances activities time and material charges	Invoiced quarterly in arrears
Transfrontier Shipment of Radioactive Waste and Spent Fuel Regulations 2008	Invoiced quarterly in arrears
All other charges	On demand

Sources of further information

- [Environmental Permitting \(England and Wales\) Regulations 2010](#)
- [The DEFRA/Welsh Government Environmental Permitting Core Guidance](#)
- Further information on OPRA can be found on our website including waste, mining waste and installations.
- Charges section on our website
- Permitting section on our website

Contact us

For billing enquiries please refer to the email addresses on the front of your invoice.

If you have any queries regarding the interpretation of charges please contact the Charges Team:

enquiries@naturalresourceswales.gov.uk

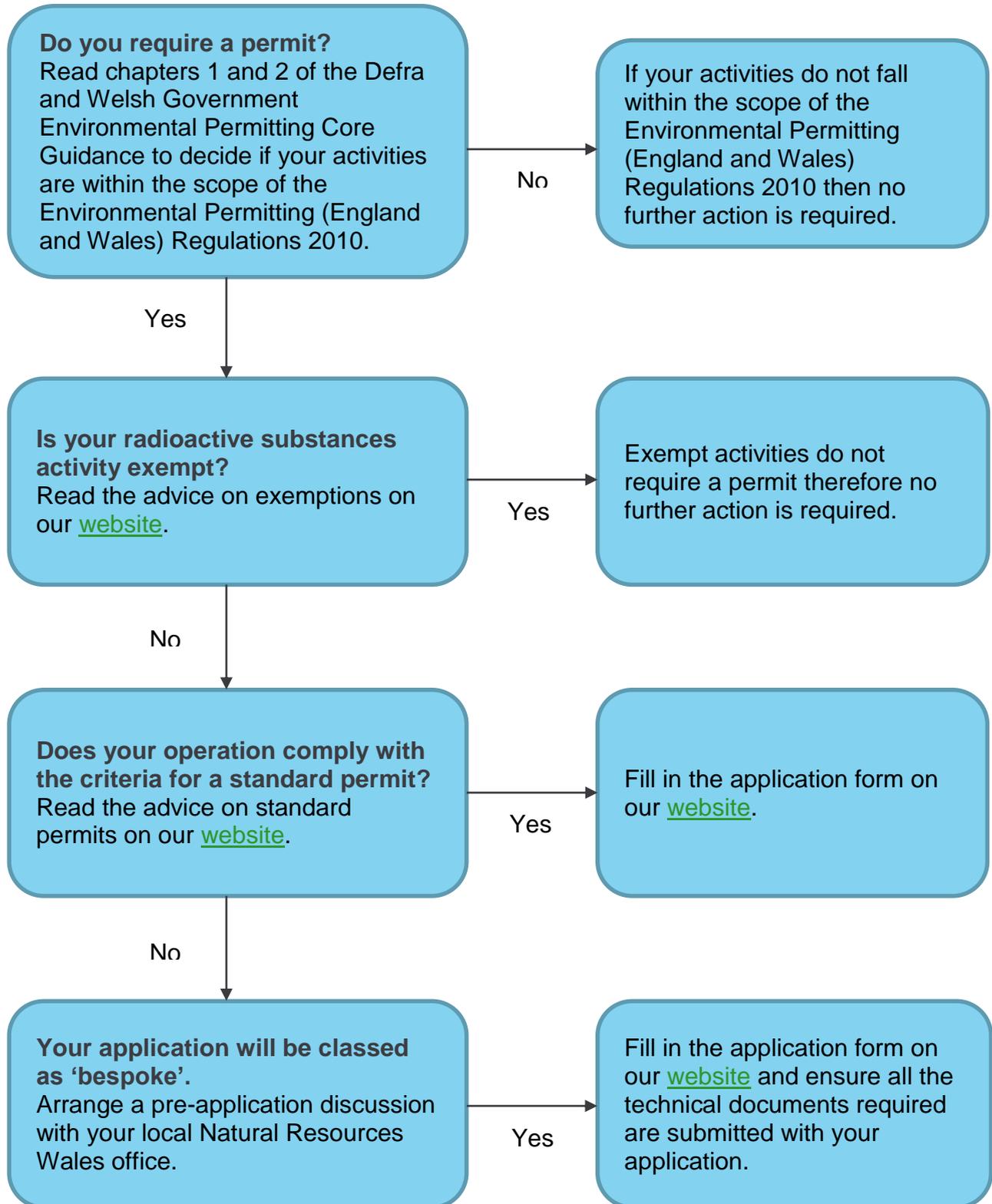
Charges Team
Finance & Corporate Services
Natural Resources Wales
Ty Cambria
29 Newport Road
Cardiff
CF24 0TP

We welcome views from our users, stakeholders and the public, including comments about the content and presentation of this scheme. If you are happy with our service please tell us about it, it helps us to identify good practice and rewards our staff. If you are unhappy with our service please let us know how we can improve it.

For copies of Natural Resources Wales publications please contact enquiries on 0300 065 3000 or by email enquiries@naturalresourceswales.gov.uk

Appendix 1

Flowchart to decide which radioactive substances permits you require.



Appendix 2

Table index

Table no.	Title	Page
1	Compliance Classification Scheme (CCS) OPRA points banding	8
2	What we charge for	9
3	Administrative variation examples for installations and waste operations	13
4	Administrative variation examples for radioactive substances activities	14
5	Administrative variation examples for WDA and groundwater activities	14
6	Administrative variation examples for flood risk activities	15
7	Minor technical variation examples for installations and waste operations	16
8	Minor technical variation examples for radioactive substances activities	16
9	Variation charges – installation and waste – changes to existing facilities	20
10	Charge bands available for an installation default standard facility	27
11	Installations – tier 2 subsistence charge compliance band adjustment	27
12	Installations – tier 2 standard permits	28
13	Installations – tier 2 bespoke permits	28
14	Installations – tier 3 charges	29
15	Installations – OPRA weighting table	29
16	Installations – tier 3 OPRA charge multipliers	29
17	Installations – tier 3 subsistence charge compliance band adjustment	30
18	Waste – landfill sites – transitional waste subsistence charges	31
19	Waste – adjacent sites	32
20	Waste – landfill adjoining and installation landfill	32
21	Waste - Charge bands available for a waste default standard facility	33
22	Waste – tier 2 subsistence charge compliance band adjustment	34
23	Waste – tier 2 bespoke permits	34
24	Waste – tier 2 standard permits	35
25	Waste – tier 2 fixed condition licences	36
26	Waste – tier 3 charges	36
27	Waste – OPRA weighting table	37
28	Waste – tier 3 OPRA charge multipliers	37
29	Waste – tier 3 subsistence charge compliance band adjustment	37
30	Waste – tier 3 transitional waste charge bands	37
31	Mining waste – charge bands available for a mining waste default standard facility	40
32	Mining waste – tier 2 subsistence charge compliance band adjustment	40
33	Mining waste – tier 3 charges	40
34	Mining waste – OPRA weighting table	41
35	Mining waste – OPRA charge multipliers	41
36	Mining waste – tier 3 subsistence charge compliance band adjustment	41
37	Mining waste – charges summary	41
38	Mobile plant – tier 2 subsistence charge compliance band adjustment	43
39	Mobile plant – tier 3 subsistence charge compliance band adjustment	43
40	Mobile plant – charge bands available for a mobile waste default standard facility	44
41	Mobile plant – tier 2 charges	44

<u>42</u>	Mobile plant – OPRA weighting table	44
<u>43</u>	Mobile plant – OPRA charge multipliers	45
<u>44</u>	Mobile plant – charges summary	45
<u>45</u>	Mobile plant – risk definitions	46
<u>46</u>	Groundwater activities – charges for solid discharges	47
<u>47</u>	Groundwater activities – charges for liquid discharges	49
<u>48</u>	WDA and Groundwater activities (point source) charges	50
<u>49</u>	Radioactive substances activities – tier 2 permit types	51
<u>50</u>	Radioactive substances activities – charge bands available for radioactive substances activities default standard facility	55
<u>51</u>	Radioactive substances activities – tier 2 fixed charges for application, variation, transfer and surrender	55
<u>52</u>	Radioactive substances activities – tier 2 subsistence charges	55
<u>53</u>	Radioactive substances activities – tier 3 charges	56
<u>54</u>	Flood risk activities – application for bespoke permits	57
<u>55</u>	Flood risk activities – application for multi flood risk activity permits	57
<u>56</u>	Flood risk activities – compliance charges	57
<u>57</u>	Waste carriers, brokers and dealers charges	58
<u>58</u>	International waste shipments charges	59
<u>59</u>	Waste electrical and electronic equipment charges – application charge	59
<u>60</u>	Waste electrical and electronic equipment charges – charge bands	59
<u>61</u>	Waste electrical and electronic equipment charges – annual charge for treatment or export facility	60
<u>62</u>	Waste batteries and accumulators – small producers	60
<u>63</u>	Battery compliance scheme operators – assessment of application	60
<u>64</u>	Battery compliance scheme operators – charges	60
<u>65</u>	Battery treatment operators and battery exporters – charges	61
<u>66</u>	Charges due dates - permits	63



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