



How to Have Your Say

Kronospan Limited application to vary an environmental permit

We are currently assessing an application to vary permit EPR/BW9999IG, from Kronospan Ltd. The application is for the inclusion of the following existing activities in the Natural Resources Wales environmental permit for the regulated facility: particleboard and medium density fibre board production, two biomass plants, sawmill and laminated flooring line. This part of the application is required to bring the site under the regulatory control of one regulator, Natural Resources Wales. A proposal for a new Oriented Strand Board production line at the site also forms part of the application.

We want to make the best decision when permitting. Listening to the views of others helps us to take account of concerns that we wouldn't otherwise be aware of. We value the responses we receive as they help us to ensure any decision we come to is appropriate and robust.

Our consultation opened on 5th September 2018 and will close on 19th October 2018. Details of Kronospan Limited's application are available for download on request to permittingconsultations@naturalresourceswales.gov.uk.

Natural Resources Wales' role

Our role is to examine Kronospan Limited's application to vary environmental permit EPR/BW9999IG and to decide whether to issue the variation or refuse the application.

We are legally obliged to issue a variation if a business can show that the site meets all the legal, environmental, technological and health requirements of UK and European law.

The steps we follow when deciding whether to issue or refuse a variation are defined by legal requirements. We are required to justify this decision within the boundaries of these legal limitations. For example, it would not be appropriate for us to refuse the variation simply because there was local opposition to the activity being carried out at this location. However, we will consider all relevant information that is raised through this consultation.

We will only issue a variation to permit EPR/BW9999IG if we believe that significant pollution will not be caused and the operator has the ability to meet the conditions of the

permit. Any variation we may issue will include appropriate conditions to protect human health and the environment.

To help you, we have set out the main issues we can and cannot consider below.

Issues we can consider comments on include:

- General operational management of the facility
- Handling and storing of incoming waste wood
- Efficient use of raw materials, water and energy
- Control of odour, noise, litter and dust
- Control of emissions to the environment to permitted limits
- Monitoring of the site processes to agreed procedures
- Monitoring of emissions to the environment to agreed standards
- Control of handling and storage of residual wastes from the process
- Potential impacts on health and the local environment
- Any relevant local factors that you believe Kronospan Limited has not considered in its permit variation application

Issues we cannot consider comments on include:

- Alternative locations and size for this facility
- Operational hours
- The transport of waste wood and raw materials to and from the site
- How much raw material is used and where it comes from
- Whether a site should have a formal designation under conservation legislation

These issues are beyond the scope of our environmental regulations. If you wish to submit comments on these issues, you should send them to Wrexham County Borough Council.

Consultation with other organisations

We work with a number of organisations and expert bodies to seek their views on protecting human health and the environment. These include:

- Wrexham County Borough Council
- Health and Safety Executive
- Public Health Wales
- North Wales Fire and Rescue Service
- Dŵr Cymru Welsh Water
- Food Standards Agency
- Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board
- Canal and Rivers Trust

For example, we have asked the health organisations to comment on potential health impacts of Kronospan Limited's application. We will work closely with them to address public concerns and take their expert advice into account when making our decision.

Next steps

We will look at any relevant comments as we carry out our assessment to decide whether we will issue or refuse a permit variation. We call the process of considering whether or not to issue a permit variation and setting permit conditions 'determination'.

We encourage any representations to be made as early as possible, so we can best take account of them during our ongoing assessment before that date.

We will then decide whether or not to issue an environmental permit variation and produce a decision document to explain how we've reached our decision.

If we decide to approve the application, we will produce a varied and consolidated environmental permit and advertise the draft conditions and decision on our website for a further 28 days.

For more information, please visit: <https://naturalresources.wales/permits-and-permissions/permit-applications-consultations-and-decisions>

Send us your comments

When making your comments, you may wish to consider the following questions. These are designed to help us understand your concerns and to identify relevant issues that need to be taken into account when we make a decision on this permit variation application.

Do you have any comments on Kronospan Limited's application, for example:

1. How they propose to prevent or minimise pollution (including noise, odour and dust)?
2. How they demonstrate that their proposals will not cause harm to human health?
3. How they demonstrate that their proposals will not cause harm to the environment?
4. Are there any local factors, e.g. local sensitive environmental features, which Kronospan Limited has not considered in their permit variation application which you believe we should take into account?

Please also tell us any other information you believe we should take into account in reaching our decision.

Should you wish to make any comments on the application, please quote the application reference number PAN-002755 and send them into the Regulated Industry Permitting Team Leader, Natural Resources Wales, Cambria House, 29 Newport Road, Cardiff, CF24 0TP or email to permittingconsultations@naturalresourceswales.gov.uk

This document is written in general terms to help you understand our permitting determination process. It is not meant as a substitute for advice on particular issues. You should seek specific advice before taking any action based on the information this document contains.