

Notice of variation and consolidation with introductory note

The Environmental Permitting (England & Wales) Regulations 2016

Kronospan Limited

**Chirk Particleboard Factory
Holyhead Road
Chirk
Wrexham
LL14 5NT**

Variation application number

EPR/BW9999IG/V008

Consolidated permit number

EPR/BW9999IG

Chirk Particleboard Factory

Consolidated permit number EPR/BW9999IG

Introductory note

This introductory note does not form a part of the notice.

The following notice gives notice of the variation of environmental permits EPR/BW9999IG (Natural Resources Wales, Permit A) and WCBC/IPPC/03/KR(V3) (Wrexham Country Borough Council, Permit B) referred to in the status logs below and the replacement of those permits with a consolidated environmental permit. EPR/BW9999IG is now the consolidated base permit for the Installation going forward.

In March 2018, Welsh Government issued a Direction requiring Natural Resources Wales ('NRW') to consolidate the existing NRW and Wrexham County Borough Council ("WCBC") environmental permits for the Chirk Particleboard Factory Installation into one and then subsequently conduct all regulatory functions in relation to that permit.

This Variation and Consolidation Notice delivers the requirements of the Welsh Government Direction, so that from the issue date of this Notice, WCBC will no longer regulate activities at the Installation and Natural Resources Wales will regulate the entire site. The Installation will then no longer be subject to a ministerial direction.

Wrexham Permit WCBC/IPPC/03/KR(V3) covered the following main activities at the installation: particleboard and medium density fibre board production, two biomass plants, sawmill and laminated flooring line, as well as some heat generating plant. Raw material deliveries and storage and waste handling, processing and storage were directly associated activities in the permit.

Prior to this variation and consolidation, the NRW permit (EPR/BW9999IG) covered only the following activities: manufacture of formaldehyde by catalytic oxidation of methanol, manufacture of urea-formaldehyde and melamine-urea-formaldehyde resin and the operation of natural gas fired combustion plant, with the VITS paper impregnation process and operation of surface water lagoons 1, 2, and 3 being directly associated activities in the permit.

All the above activities previously regulated by WCBC are now consolidated into the NRW permit following this variation.

Kronospan Limited currently operates the activities covered by the environmental permits described above and has additionally applied for some process changes to be added to the permit, resulting from investment in the site since October 2014. The most notable of these are the operation of a new 45MW chip dryer and Wet Electrostatic Precipitator (WESP 21), which dry and treat emissions from the existing particleboard manufacturing process.

These process changes are incorporated into the permit as part of this variation. We have also assessed predicted releases to air from the entire installation to obtain a baseline for human health and ecological receptors, against which future regulatory improvements can be measured.

Kronospan's variation application also contained a proposal for a new oriented strand board (OSB) production line, which no longer forms part of this determination and is 'deemed withdrawn' for this variation (EPR/BW9999IG/V008) and will instead be considered as part of a future variation application.

As part of the permit consolidation process, we have conducted a full review of the conditions to ensure compliance with the Environmental Permitting Regulations (EPR), the Industrial Emissions Directive (IED) and Best Available Techniques (BAT) for the wood-based panels sector.

For the latter, we have incorporated the changes required by the IED following a statutory review of the site's activities against the BAT Conclusions for Production of Wood Based Panels, which were published on 24 November 2015 in the Official Journal of the European Union (L306/31). This follows a European Union wide review of BAT, (implementing decision 2015/2119/EU of 20th November 2015). We are satisfied that the operator is compliant with the published BAT conclusions.

This variation also includes updated conditions relating to Chapter IV of the Industrial Emissions Directive relating to the incineration of waste for the K8 Biomass Plant. These replace references to the Waste Incineration Directive (WID) in the Wrexham permit.

The schedules specify the changes made to the permit.

The status log of a permit sets out the permitting history, including any changes to the permit reference number.

Status log of permit A: EPR/BW9999IG

Description	Date	Comments
Application BW9999IG (EPR/BW9999IG/A001)	Received 28/11/03	Duly made, Supersedes withdrawn application BR7194
Additional information via Schedule 4	Request dated 23/02/04	Response in part dated 19/04/04
Additional information via Schedule 4		Noise survey 21/05/04
Re-submission of Schedule 4 response	Request dated 26/05/04	Information received on 30/06/04
Permit determined BW9999IG (EPR/BW9999IG/A001)	17/09/04	
Variation notice KP3735SC. Issued (EPR/BW9999IG/V002)	05/04/06	Re-issue of conditions to account for administrative errors and to change emission limits values from the original permit
Variation application EPR/BW9999IG/V003	Duly Made 02/12/08	
Variation application EPR/BW9999IG/V003 issued	28/04/09	
Variation application EPR/BW9999IG/V004	Duly Made 18/05/10	
Variation application EPR/BW9999IG/V004 issued	22/08/10	
Variation application EPR/BW9999IG/V005	Duly Made 28/10/10	
Variation application EPR/BW9999IG/V005 issued	08/12/10	
Variation application EPR/BW9999IG/V006	Duly Made 05/01/16	
Variation application EPR/BW9999IG/V006 issued	01/02/16	
Variation application EPR/BW9999IG/V007	Duly Made 13/01/17	Substantial variation to include combustion plant
Additional information requested	08/03/17	Schedule 5 Notice
Additional information received	28/03/17	Updated site plan, clarification regarding release of trade effluent to sewer from combustion plant, gas engine emissions monitoring point assessment and additional information on the air quality assessment.

Status log of permit A: EPR/BW9999IG

Description	Date	Comments
Additional information received	13/04/17	Information describing control of NO _x and CO emissions from gas engines
Additional information requested	19/05/17	Schedule 5 Notice
Additional information received	26/05/17 & 09/06/17	Updated site plan, clarification regarding release of trade effluent to sewer from combustion plant, gas engine tuning settings, updating modelling for K7 at 6% O ₂ reference oxygen content, & predicted impacts associated with half-hourly and daily NO _x ELVs, when all dryers are offline. Also, predicted NO _x PCs and PECs at ecological receptors under "Limits Case".
Additional information requested	03/07/17	Email to: R. Flavell (Fichtner) (cc; K Baker, Kronospan)
Additional information requested	05/07/17	Email to: R. Flavell (Fichtner) (cc; K Baker, Kronospan)
Additional information received	12/07/17	Updated PCs and PECs for the "Limits Case" ecological assessment, following under-estimation for some modelling scenarios. Assessment of predicted impact on European Sites for Nutrient Nitrogen and Acid Deposition. Provision of modelling assessment for Berwyn SPA.
Additional information received	26/07/17	Revised acid deposition predictions for woodland habitats following error in previous calculations. Clarification on predicted releases from site when K7 and K8 are offline compared with releases when MDF2 is offline for the Likely, Limits and Worst Cases.
Additional information received	16/08/17	Provision of predicted impact on human health under the Limits Case when MDF2 is offline for annual and daily mean NO _x . Also predicted daily mean NO _x impact at Canal Wood LWS and Chirk Castle ancient woodland.
Variation determined EPR/BW9999IG/V007	30/11/17	

Status log of permit A: EPR/BW9999IG

Description	Date	Comments
Variation and consolidation application EPR/BW9999IG/V008 received	Duly made 27/07/18	Application for new OSB Production line; consolidation of extant WCBC & NRW permits to implement WG Direction; Natural Resources Wales Production of Wood-based Panels Sector Review
Additional information requested	01/08/18	Email
Additional information received	02/08/18	Email confirmation that the Sawmill and Laminated Flooring Line are both EPR Section 6.6 B (a) i activities. (Response to email request on 01/08/18).
Additional information requested	23/11/18	Schedule 5 Notice
Regulation 61 Notice sent to the Operator	15/01/19	Issue of a Notice under Regulation 61(1) of the Environmental Permitting (England and Wales) Regulations 2016 requiring further information on expected compliance with the "Large Volume Organic Chemicals BAT Conclusions" and "Common Waste Water and Waste Gas Treatment / Management Systems in the Chemical Sector BAT Conclusions". The purpose of this request is to gather information to inform a forthcoming NRW review of the permit against these best practice documents.
Additional information received	21/01/19, 23/01/19 & 24/01/19	Schedule 5 notice response addressing, air quality assessment, Kronoplus Ltd operations, noise assessment and more detailed comparison of Kronospan Ltd's operations against the Wood Panel BREF BAT Conclusions.
Additional information requested	08/04/19	Schedule 5 Notice
Additional information requested	03/05/19	Query on waste types accepted by K7. (Grades of wood part of the question no longer relevant).

Status log of permit A: EPR/BW9999IG

Description	Date	Comments
Additional information received	28/05/19	Schedule 5 Notice response (including response to 03/05/19 email query) covering: Identification of which legal entities control each regulated activity. Provision of updated noise assessment, noise modelling for on-site traffic and complaints log template. Clarification on Air Quality Assessment Input tables, status of Gas Engines 4 & 5, plume abatement on the newly constructed WESP 21, items of combustion plant using Light Fuel Oil as a secondary fuel and which combustion plant the report in Appendix E of the variation application is relevant to. Clarification of raw material usage, water use, releases to sewer, relevant to proposed OSB process. Clarification on waste types used in on-site processes.
Additional information requested	04/06/19	Email
Additional information received	05/06/19	Email: 2016 site baseline noise assessment & clarification on NVC report appendices. (Response to email request on 04/06/19).
Additional information requested	10/06/19	Email
Additional information requested	11/06/19	Email requesting clarification of the relationship between Kronospan Ltd and the companies operating the Part B activities for accounting purposes.
Additional information received	12/06/19	Justification for air quality modelling scenarios used for ecological assessment (response to email request on 10/06/19)
Additional information requested	27/06/19	Email
Additional information received	02/07/19	Demonstration of Kronospan Ltd operator control of Part B activities (response to email request on 11/06/19).

Status log of permit A: EPR/BW9999IG

Description	Date	Comments
Additional information received	02/07/19	Kronospan response to Regulation 61(1) notice requiring further information on expected compliance with the "Large Volume Organic Chemicals BAT Conclusions" and "Common Waste Water and Waste Gas Treatment / Management Systems in the Chemical Sector BAT Conclusions".
Additional information received	03/07/19	Email: Boiler Fuel Creation Procedure. (Response to email request on 27/06/19).
Additional information requested	12/07/19	Email
Additional information received	12/07/19	Email: clarifying sources of releases from WESPs 32 and 21. (response to email request on 12/07/19).
Additional information requested	23/07/19	Schedule 5 Notice
Additional information received	30/09/19	Schedule 5 Notice response covering: press abatement emissions dispersion from original WESP 32, location of bag filter abatement plant and associated emissions, K8 ammonia modelling, justification of habitats assessment scenarios, critical loads assessment for key ecological interest features, updated noise modelling, OSB BAT assessment, segregation of K7 and K8 boiler fuel and updated emission point plan.
Additional information received	04/10/19	Air Quality and Noise Modelling Files in support of Schedule 5 response.
Additional information requested	25/10/19	Email
Additional information requested	29/10/19	Email
Additional information received	29/10/19	Email confirmation that Kronospan wish to retain half-hour average ELVs and legal ability for abnormal operation of K8 Biomass Plant in NRW permit. Confirmation of CEM arrangements for K8. (Response to email request on 29/10/19).

Status log of permit A: EPR/BW9999IG

Description	Date	Comments
Additional information received	31/10/19	Amended emission point plan and plan showing release points from bag filter abatement plant. (Response to email request on 29/10/19)
Additional information received	08/11/19	Email: Amended Boiler Fuel Creation procedure (Part response to email request on 25/10/19).
Additional information requested	13/11/19	Email
Additional information requested	22/11/19	Email
Additional information received	22/11/19	Email: Air Quality Assessment for OSB Planning application, response to press abatement modelling questions and source of WESP 32 emission limits. Results of fuel trials on K7 Boiler. (Results of fuel trials are part response to email request on 13/11/19)
Additional information received	28/11/19	Finished Product Composition (response to email dated 22/11/19)
Confidentiality decision following objection notice received from operator on 28/11/19	20/12/19	Decision to accept the objection notice received from the operator in relation to specified information received as part of the application.
Additional information received	09/01/20	Further review of dust extraction units, with technical data sheets and updated modelling.
Additional information requested	15/01/20	Follow-up noise questions following assessment of Schedule 5 response #3.
Additional information requested	05/02/20	Schedule 5 Notice
Additional information received	16/03/20 & 09/04/20 & 12/04/20	Schedule 5 Notice Part Response covering: modelling supporting K1 increased NO _x ELV, modelling of additional pollutants for K7, AQ modelling of half hourly averages for K8, confirmation of K8 auxiliary fuel, Abnormal Emissions Impact Assessment for K8 and HHRA addendum to include fisher receptor. Air Quality Modelling files in support of response. Background noise monitoring question not answered due to Covid-19 restrictions.

Status log of permit A: EPR/BW9999IG

Description	Date	Comments
Additional information requested	06/05/20 & 27/05/20	Emails requesting confirmation of current trade effluent emission points
Additional information received	21/05/20 & 27/05/20	Emails confirming current trade effluent emission points
Additional information received	15/07/20	Letter from Kronospan following NRW & Kronospan meeting on 9 July 2020. Confirms understanding of postponing determination of OSB development and removing from this variation. This is due to difficulty of obtaining up to date background noise data due to Covid-19 restrictions. (Superseded by correspondence sent to Kronospan dated 18/03/22 advising submission of a new application for OSB in the light of design changes since the original application PAN-002755).
Additional information requested	08/10/20	Schedule 5 Notice
Additional information received	27/11/20, 02/12/20 & 10/12/20	Schedule 5 Notice response covering: Site plans including emission points, modelling of particulate emissions and design specification for bag filter abatement plant, points of clarification in relation to air modelling from third and fourth Schedule 5 responses, in-combination habitats assessment for European Sites, updated Fire Prevention and Mitigation Plan and noise assessment for Chip Dryer No. 4.
Additional information requested	02/12/20	Email requesting clarification and submission of noise modelling files for New Chip Dryer 4
Additional information received	02/12/20	Noise modelling files for new Chip Dryer 4
Additional information requested	07/12/20	Emails requesting clarification on calculation of K1 emission rate & submission of 4 x missing bag filter data sheets.
Additional information received	10/12/20	4 x missing bag filter data sheets submitted in response to email dated 07/12/20
Additional information requested	10/12/20	Email querying Met data for K8 half-hourly ELVs model inputs

Status log of permit A: EPR/BW9999IG

Description	Date	Comments
Additional information requested	16/12/20	Additional clarification sought on in-combination assessment provided as part of the fifth Schedule 5 Notice Response.
Additional information requested	18/12/20 & 11/01/21	Emails querying noise modelling for New Chip Dryer 4
Additional information received	23/12/20	Clarification on K1 emission rate, Met data for K8 half-hourly ELV model inputs and updated in-combination assessment in response to follow up questions via emails dated 07/12/20, 10/12/20 & 16/12/20
Additional information requested	23/12/20 & 07/01/21	Emails querying model inputs for WESP 32 Press abatement releases
Additional information received	21/01/21	Amended site plan with air emission point A29 removed.
Additional information received	22/01/21 & 15/03/21	Emails clarifying queries on noise modelling for new Chip Dryer 4 (email request dated 18/12/20).
Additional information requested	26/01/21	Email: Confirmation of modelling scenarios required for WESP 32 Press abatement releases and plume visibility analysis.
Additional information requested	09/02/21	Email: follow up noise questions based on email response of 22/01/21
Additional information received	03/03/21	Press abatement and plume visibility modelling for WESP 32 (response to email dated 26/01/21)
Additional information received	08/03/21	Email: revised and updated noise modelling files verifying noise reduction associated with new wood chip preparation plant (response to email dated 09/02/21)
Additional information requested	16/07/21	Schedule 5 Notice
Additional information provided to Operator	22/07/21	Spreadsheet of Medium Combustion Plant permits issued in North & Mid Wales regions to inform scope of habitats in-combination assessment.
Additional information received	31/07/21	Response to Schedule 5 Notice dated 16/07/21. Consolidated Air Quality Modelling report for the installation.
Additional information requested	19/08/21	Email: Process flow diagram for WESP 21

Status log of permit A: EPR/BW9999IG

Description	Date	Comments
Additional information requested	25/08/21	Email: Excel spreadsheet of emission calculations underpinning air quality modelling and priority order for other Schedule 5 follow up items.
Additional information requested	26/08/21	Email request for consolidated Air Quality modelling report to address inconsistencies identified from initial review of Schedule 5 response dated 31/07/21.
Additional information received	10/09/21	Updated Consolidated Air Quality Modelling report addressing the inconsistencies identified in emails dated 25/08/21 & 26/08/21.
Additional information received	15/12/21	Updated consolidated air quality modelling report addressing habitats issues with acid deposition process contributions and critical loads for assessment.
Additional information requested	17/12/21	Email: Feasibility of meeting Likely Case NO _x emission limits in terms of normal process fluctuations.
Additional information received	11/01/22	Email: Emissions monitoring results for WESP 21 and MDF 1 & 2 cyclones. (response to email dated 17/12/21)
Notice of Deemed Withdraw PAN-002755	15/06/2022	OSB development proposals (ref PAN-002755) partially deemed withdrawn from this variation.
Variation determined Consolidated Permit: EPR/BW9999IG	04/10/22	Varied and consolidated permit issued in modern IED condition format. The following permits have been consolidated: EPR/BW9999IG and WCBC/IPPC/03/KR(V3).

Status log of permit B: WCBC/PPC/KR

Description	Date	Comments
Permit determined WCBC/PPC/KR/1	17/09/04	
Permit determined WCBC/PPC/KR(V2)	12/11/12	
Permit determined WCBC/IPPC/03/KR(V3)	17/10/14	
Variation and consolidation application EPR/BW9999IG/V008 received	Duly made 27/07/18	Application for new OSB Production line; consolidation of extant WCBC & NRW permits to implement WG Direction; Natural Resources Wales Production of Wood-based Panels Sector Review
Additional information requested	01/08/18	Email
Additional information received	02/08/18	Email confirmation that the Sawmill and Laminated Flooring Line are both EPR Section 6.6 B (a) i activities. (Response to email request on 01/08/18).
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Additional information received	31/07/21	Response to Schedule 5 Notice dated 16/07/21. Consolidated Air Quality Modelling report for the installation.
Additional information requested	19/08/21	Email: Process flow diagram for WESP 21

Status log of permit B: WCBC/PPC/KR

Description	Date	Comments
Additional information requested	25/08/21	Email: Excel spreadsheet of emission calculations underpinning air quality modelling and priority order for other Schedule 5 follow up items.
Additional information requested	26/08/21	Email request for consolidated Air Quality modelling report to address inconsistencies identified from initial review of Schedule 5 response dated 31/07/21.
Additional information received	10/09/21	Updated Consolidated Air Quality Modelling report addressing the inconsistencies identified in emails dated 25/08/21 & 26/08/21.
Additional information received	15/12/21	Updated consolidated air quality modelling report addressing habitats issues with acid deposition process contributions and critical loads for assessment.
Additional information requested	17/12/21	Email: Feasibility of meeting Likely Case NO _x emission limits in terms of normal process fluctuations.
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Notice of Deemed Withdraw PAN-002755	15/06/2022	OSB development proposals (ref PAN-002755) partially deemed withdrawn from this variation.
Variation determined Consolidated Permit: EPR/BW9999IG	04/10/22	Varied and consolidated permit issued in modern IED condition format. The following permits have been consolidated: EPR/BW9999IG and WCBC/IPPC/03/KR(V3).

End of introductory note

Notice of variation and consolidation

The Environmental Permitting (England and Wales) Regulations 2016

The Natural Resources Body for Wales (“Natural Resources Wales”) in exercise of its powers under regulations 18 and 20 of the Environmental Permitting (England and Wales) Regulations 2016 varies and consolidates environmental permits

Permit numbers

EPR/BW9999IG

WCBC/IPPC/03/KR(V3)

issued to

Kronospan Ltd (“the operator”)

whose registered office is

Kronospan Limited

Maesgwyn Farm

Chirk

Wrexham

LL14 5NT

company registration number **00981905**

to operate a regulated facility at

Chirk Particleboard Factory,

Holyhead Road

Chirk

Wrexham

LL14 5NT

to the extent set out in the schedules.

The notice shall take effect from 04/10/2022

The number of the consolidated permit is EPR/BW9999IG

Signed

Date

Holly Noble

04/10/2022

Team Leader, Installations and RSR Permitting
Authorised on behalf of Natural Resources Wales

Schedule 1 – changes in the permit

All conditions have been varied by the consolidated permit.

Schedule 2 – consolidated permit

Consolidated permit issued as a separate document.