

**Natural Resources Wales permitting decisions**

**Knauf Insulation Limited  
Queensferry Mineral Fibre Works  
Decision Document**

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## Minor Technical Variation

**The application variation number is:**

**EPR/BR9383ID/V012**

**The applicant /operator is:**

**Knauf Insulation Limited**

**The Installation is located at:**

**Queensferry Mineral Fibre Works, Chemistry Lane, Queensferry, Deeside,  
Flintshire, CH5 2DA**

We have decided to issue the variation for Queensferry Mineral Fibre Works operated by Knauf Insulation Limited.

We consider in reaching that decision we have taken into account all relevant considerations and legal requirements and that the permit will ensure that the appropriate level of environmental protection is provided.

## Purpose of this document

This decision document:

- explains how the application has been determined
- provides a record of the decision-making process
- shows how all relevant factors have been taken into account
- justifies the specific conditions in the permit other than those in our generic permit template.

Unless the decision document specifies otherwise we have accepted the applicant's proposals.

## Key issues of the decision

### Receipt of application

#### Operator

We are satisfied that the applicant (now the operator) is the person who will have control over the operation of the facility after the grant of the permit. The decision was taken in accordance with EPR RGN 1 Understanding the meaning of operator.

#### The facility

The regulated facility is an installation which comprises the following activities listed in Part 2 of Schedule 1 to the Environmental Permitting Regulations and the following directly associated activities.

- Section 3.4 Part A(1)(a) Melting mineral substances in plant with a melting capacity of more than 20 tonnes per day.
  - R5 Recycling/reclamation of other inorganic materials
  - R13 Storage of wastes pending any of the operations R1 to R12 (excluding temporary storage, pending collection, on the site where it is produced.

#### Legislation

NRW is satisfied that this decision is compatible with its general purpose of pursuing the sustainable management of natural resources in relation to Wales and applying the principles of sustainable management of natural resources

All applicable European directives have been considered in the determination of the application.

#### The site

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The operator has provided a plan which we consider is satisfactory, showing the extent of the site of the facility.

A plan is included in the permit and the operator is required to carry on the permitted activities within the site boundary.

## Environmental Risk Assessment

### Air

There will be no new point source emission to air as a result of this variation.

#### Emission limits

No additional emission limits are considered necessary.

### Water

There will be no new point source emission to water as a result of this variation.

#### Emission limits

We have decided that emission limits should be set for the parameters listed in the permit.

There will be no new point source emission to air as a result of this variation.

### Sewer

The oxygen generation plant will produce a small amount of condensate (approximately 70 litres per hour at full load) from the system. This may contain a small amount of oil. The condensate will pass through an oil/water separator system and then the clean water be discharged into the normal foul drain. The oil/water separator will be checked on scheduled service visits twice per year. As the only additional release is a very small quantity of clean water this release has not been considered any further.

### Soil

The operator has provided a description of the condition of the site.

We consider this description is [not] satisfactory. The decision was taken in accordance with our guidance on site condition reports – guidance and templates (H5).

### **Odour**

The zeolite, refrigerant and lubricant associated with the oxygen generation plant will be used within a building and are considered to have very low odour potential have not been considered further.

### **Noise**

The oxygen generation plant will be housed in an insulated building with a raised bank and tree line between the plant and the nearest noise sensitive receptor. In addition, the change in oxygen supply will result in lower noise levels due to a reduction in Bulk Tanker deliveries (removal of noise while filling oxygen tanks) as well as the removal of bulk storage tank and expansion/evaporator banks with no noise from venting pressure relief valves. This would ensure that the noise levels associated with the oxygen generation plant are consistent with those from the wider plant previously permitted in EPR/BR9383ID/V011.

### **Fugitive emissions**

Based upon the information in the application we are satisfied that the appropriate measures will be in place to prevent or where that is not practicable to minimise fugitive emissions and to prevent pollution from fugitive emissions.

### **Monitoring**

There is no additional monitoring required as part of this variation.

### **Reporting**

There is no additional reporting required as part of this variation.

## Operating techniques

We have reviewed the techniques used by the operator and compared these with the relevant guidance notes.

The proposed techniques/ emission levels for priorities for control are in line with the benchmark levels contained in the TGN and we consider them to represent appropriate techniques for the facility.

## Incorporating the application

We have specified that the applicant must operate the permit in accordance with descriptions in the application, including all additional information received as part of the determination process.

These descriptions are specified in the Operating Techniques table in the permit.

## OPRA

The OPRA score at permit issue is 88.