
UK FLOUR MILLERS BRIEFING DOCUMENT

Industrial Emissions Directive (IED)

Revised August 2017

Summary

The IED replaced the IPPC directive on 7 January 2014 and is a 'recast' incorporating many of its original requirements. Environmental permitting will continue under the IED with some changes that may bring some mill sites into regulation for the first time, with effect from 7th July 2015. The Directive specifies that grain processing installations with a **potential** capacity to produce more than 300 tonnes per day (average value on a quarterly basis) of vegetable matter (flour or wheatfeed) will be regulated by permit.

The need to maintain an effective environmental management system is a fundamental requirement of all environmental permits. Permit applications can be made through the UK Environment Agency and the appropriate Local Authority.

Background

In November 2005, the European Commission (EC) launched a review of European legislation on industrial emissions. The review led to the Commission proposing, in 2007, a Directive on Industrial Emissions (IED). This proposal involved the coalescing of seven existing directives into one:

- the Large Combustion Plant directive (LCPD)
- the Integrated Pollution Prevention and Control directive (IPPC)
- the Waste Incineration directive (WID)
- the Solvent Emissions directive (SED), and
- the three existing directives on Titanium dioxide on (i) disposal (78/176/EEC), (ii) monitoring and surveillance (82/883/EEC) and (iii) programs for the reduction of pollution (92/112/EEC).

The IED repealed the IPPC directive on 7 January 2014 and is a 'recast' incorporating many of its original requirements. Permitting will continue under the IED with some changes to the activity descriptions for the food & drink sector that may bring some mill sites into regulation for the first time, with effect from 7th July 2015.

The need to maintain an effective environmental management system is a foundational requirement of all environmental permits. General principles that apply to all IED installations include the need to:

- take all appropriate preventive measures against pollution, and in any event ensure no significant pollution is caused
- apply BAT (Best Available Techniques) as laid out in EU guidance
- use resources and energy efficiently and minimise the generation of waste
- ensure the necessary measures are taken to prevent accidents and limit their consequences;
- upon cessation of activities, return the site of operation to a satisfactory state

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Best Available Techniques (BATS)

To limit imbalances in the European Union, reference documents for BATs (known as BAT reference documents or BREFs) are published by the EC.

BATs are defined as the most effective techniques to achieve a high level of environmental protection, taking into account costs and benefits. They refer not only to technology used, but also site design, build, operation and maintenance.

BREFs are written by technical working groups that consist of industry experts, Member State authorities, research institutes and NGOs and are co-ordinated by the European IPPC Bureau. BREFs are published on the European IPPC Bureau website:

<http://eippcb.jrc.ec.europa.eu/reference/fdm.html>

They must be reviewed and updated at least every eight years and the Food, Drink and Milk BREF, which applies to milling, is currently under review.

Applying for a Permit

In the UK, permit applications must be made through the Environment Agency and the appropriate Local Authority. The [cost of a permit](#) depends on the type of business activity and the environmental risk and permits usually take up to three months to be processed.

For more information visit: <https://www.gov.uk/topic/environmental-management/environmental-permits>

A **UK Flour Millers** guide to implementing and maintaining an Environmental Management System (EMS) along with example documents is also [available from the UK Flour Millers website](#).

Future Work

UK Flour Millers will continue to monitor and report on developments in environmental legislation and will also maintain discussions with the relevant bodies.