

OFFICIAL

Our Ref: [REDACTED]

Your Ref: [REDACTED]

If emailing, contact: [REDACTED]

17 January 2022

[REDACTED]
Whiteshore Cockles Limited
Balemore
Kyles Paible
Bayhead
North Uist
HS6 5EB

Dear [REDACTED]

**POLLUTION PREVENTION AND CONTROL (SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 2012 (“the Regulations”) (As amended)
ENFORCEMENT POSITION ON TEMPORARY OPERATION OF BIOMASS BOILER
SITE: Whiteshore Cockles Limited, Balemore, Kyles Paible, Bayhead, North Uist**

Thank you for your request to operate the biomass boiler prior to the submission of an application for a Pollution Prevention and Control permit.

The operation of a new medium combustion plant or any other installation or part of an installation without being authorised under a permit would be an offence under Regulation 67(1) of the Regulations. However, SEPA has considered the issues surrounding the proposed commissioning and short-term operation of the biomass boiler to enable Renewable Heat Incentive (RHI) qualification emissions testing to occur. I can confirm that SEPA would not take any enforcement action if Whiteshore Cockles carry out the activity of the burning of fuel in a medium combustion plant with a rated thermal input of 1 – 20 MW, falling within Schedule 1, Part 1, Chapter 1, Section 1.1, Part B (d) of the Regulations, for the purposes of commissioning and emissions testing of the biomass boiler only, in accordance with the following specific conditions:

- (i) The commissioning of the Whiteshore Cockles Biomass Boiler (WCBB) is carried out as described in the documents provided to SEPA on 17 December 2021 and identified as ‘Whiteshore Boiler commissioning plan V1.2 -Dec 2021’ (“the Commissioning Plan”).
- (ii) Only third-party supplied fuel as detailed in the Commissioning Plan shall be utilised in the WCBB.
- (iii) The operation of the salmon mortalities processing plant at the Site shall not commence and fuel produced by this facility will not be used in the WCBB.
- (iv) All emissions to air from the WCBB shall be free from offensive odour, as perceived by a person who is authorised in writing under Section 108 of the Environment Act 1995 to carry out duties on behalf of SEPA, outside the site boundary.

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Chief Executive
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- (v) All emissions of smoke to air from the WCBB shall not exceed Ringlemann Shade 1.
- (vi) You shall take all necessary measures to minimise pollution arising from the commissioning and emissions testing of the WCBB in respect of noise and vibration, as far as reasonably practicable.
- (vii) There shall be no discharge of effluent to the Water Environment from the WCBB.
- (viii) Whiteshore Cockles shall notify SEPA at least 7 days prior to the commencement of the WCBB commissioning and emissions testing operations.
- (ix) Completion of the WCBB commissioning and emissions testing operations shall be notified to SEPA within 14 days of the above notification, or as otherwise agreed in writing with SEPA.

This enforcement position is specific to Whiteshore Cockles and remains in place for the duration of the WCBB commissioning and emissions testing.

Our adoption of this time limited site-specific enforcement position does not in any way pre-determine the outcome of your future permit application.

SEPA reserves the right to withdraw this enforcement position at any time. If you do not comply with the conditions of this letter or if SEPA considers that the activities are likely to cause significant harm to the environment or human health, or if such harm is caused, this enforcement position will be withdrawn immediately and enforcement action may be taken.

If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact [REDACTED] by email on [REDACTED]

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
Unit Manager
Waste and Industry Unit
Environmental Performance

cc: [REDACTED] (by email)