



Local Authority Recycling Advisory Committee

Compliance Assessment Scheme Consultation
SEPA
Erskine Court
Castle Business Park
Stirling
FK9 4TR

2 Oct. 08

Dear Sir or Madam,

Consultation Response - Compliance Assessment Scheme

I am writing to present the LARAC response to the Compliance Assessment Scheme Consultation, which is contained below, and I thank you for the opportunity to respond to the above consultation.

The comments below are sent on behalf of the Local Authority Recycling Advisory Committee (LARAC). LARAC is an association of well over 400 local authorities across England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland whose waste management and recycling professionals' co-ordinate and operate waste management services. Membership is drawn from all types of authority including statutory Waste Collection (WCA), Waste Disposal (WDA) and Unitary.

Overall LARAC finds the proposed scheme proportionate, fair and clear. It welcomes the structure of the compliance matrix as proposed. Specific comments are given overleaf.

If you have any queries on this response or would like to discuss the matter further then please contact me on 01786 850326 or khelwig@dsl.pipex.com.

Yours faithfully,

Karin Helwig
LARAC Policy Team



Local Authority Recycling Advisory Committee

Consultation Response - Compliance Assessment Scheme

LARACs has considered the main parts (Context and Scheme Manual) of the consultation document, as well as Annex 4 and Annex 5 (PPC - Landfill and Waste Management Licensing).

LARACs only comments are regarding ELCs, and relate in particular to Annex 4 PPC - Landfills.

1. Differentiation between types of ELCs

In Annex 4 PPC - Landfills, the following ELCs are specified (amongst others): significant sewage solids, significant discolouration, significant foaming and significant sewage fungus.

It is not clear to LARAC whether these ELCs are intended as numerical or absolute ELCs or otherwise. Although these ELCs are not numerical, it is suggested that these ELC are not all that suitable to be regarded as absolute criteria either, due to the inclusion of the term 'significant' in the ELC. The table states that minor breaches of these ELCs are not applicable. Although LARAC acknowledges that for some of the above the meaning of significant is further defined in the table, it would suggest that as breaches of these criteria can be more serious or less serious, it would be appropriate if this was reflected in the assessment guidance.

LARAC suggests that instead of, or in addition to, the category of 'numerical' ELCs, a category of 'quantifiable' ELCs might be considered for such criteria whereby the method of quantification would be specific to the ELC in question. Minor, repeated minor as well as significant breaches could then be recorded to give a more accurate compliance assessment.

2. Breaches of Numerical ELCs

LARAC would like clarification of the following:

With regard to ELCs with "single licensed threshold value (numerical limits for air or effluent)", Table 5 states that any breach counts as a minor breach, and twice the limit specified in the license constitutes a significant breach. Yet, in Annex 4, for "Parameters with Upper Tier Limits (eg BOD)", minor breaches are not applicable and any breach is a significant breach. This appears contradictory.

LARAC is satisfied with the EMC assessment proposals and with all assessment proposals relating to Waste Management Licensing.