Environmental Authorisations (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 2025

Correspondence from Glasgow City Council, received 13 January 2025

Dear Mr Mountain,

Glasgow City Council welcomes the opportunity to provide feedback on the proposed legislation - The Environmental Authorisations (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 2025.

We are of the opinion that the proposal looks to be a sensible way forward consolidating and clarifying environmental regulations; simplifying existing authorisations carried out by SEPA, expanding the remit and scope of SEPA and bringing additional activities under the scope of the legislation.

This means that these additional activities can now have controls placed on them and will benefit how environmental nuisance issues (such as odours) can be dealt with. We anticipate that the proposals should not negatively impact Planning and Building Standards and believe it strengthens SEPA's role which is positive for planning. We also support the proposals around regulations for small electricity generators at a single site, where they aggregate to one MW thermal input or more. The introduction and regulation of emission limit values to smaller generators, which cumulatively amount to above the threshold for Medium Combustion Plant, closes an important loophole through restriction of the potential for cumulative emission sources, with the capacity for significant local impacts on air quality, to escape regulation.

It should be noted that Glasgow City Council Environmental Health have not received any complaints about the activities being brought under the control of the proposed legislation, but we welcome the fact that the potential for environmental issues has been recognised and regulatory controls are being put in place.

I trust this is of assistance.

Kind regards,

George

George Gillespie

Executive Director Neighbourhoods, Regeneration and Sustainability Glasgow City Council