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Landspreading Waste – Permit Changes

The Environment Agency is rolling-out new conditions to landspreading and storage permits on the **6th January 2017**. The new rules will be published on the [gov.uk website](http://gov.uk). The changes will apply to the following Standard Rules permits:

- SR2010 No4 Mobile plant for landspreading
- SR2010 No5 Mobile plant for the reclamation, restoration or improvement of land
- SR2010 No6 Mobile plant for landspreading of sewage sludge
- SR2010 No17 Storage of digestate from anaerobic digestion plants

Key changes to the permit will include:

- The maximum storage of waste will change from 3000 tonnes per **permit** to 3000 tonnes per **deployment**. Because an operator can have multiple deployments under one permit, the NFU believes this will benefit permit holders who have deployments spread across the country.
- The Environment Agency will have to be pre-notified at least 48 hours and no greater than 7 days before the landspreading of waste under a standard rules permit.
- The quantity of non-stackable waste stored under a deployment is to reduce from **3000 to 1250 tonnes**. The maximum volume of stackable waste stored under a deployment will remain at 3000 tonnes.
- Wastes with a high readily available nitrogen content will have to be covered if stored adjacent to sensitive locations such as SSSIs.
- For deployments covering an area greater than 50 hectares one deployment will be allowed for a single waste stream for a single crop on a single continuous parcel of land (field) of up to **100 hectares** under the control of a single occupier.
- The storage permit will be expanded to include a wider range of wastes which can be sent for landspreading and will now be called: Standard rules SR2010No17 Storage of wastes to be used in land treatment (storage of waste prior to use).

From 6th January only the amended rule sets will be available for new applications. The existing rule sets will continue to apply to existing permit holders until 3 months after the date of publication. At this point the amended rule sets will automatically apply to existing permits.

All existing permit holders will be contacted by the Environment Agency via letter and notified of the changes above. These letters were sent out on the 16th December 2016. There are still details within the changes which require clarification such as ‘what format will the pre-notification requirement take?’ Once further clarification is sought an update will be circulated.

National Resources Wales is still in the consultation phase regarding any changes to their landspreading permits. This means that there will be a period of time where permits will differ between England and Wales. This issue is being resolved by the creation of a Regulatory Position Statement entitled ‘Deploying mobile plant for landspreading in England or Wales: RPS 203’. This is a temporary solution until the Welsh changes come into force.

The NFU leaflet ‘[Waste Volumes and Types](#)’ will need to be updated to reflect the changes. Once the leaflet changes have been made an updated version will be circulated.

The voice of British farming

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