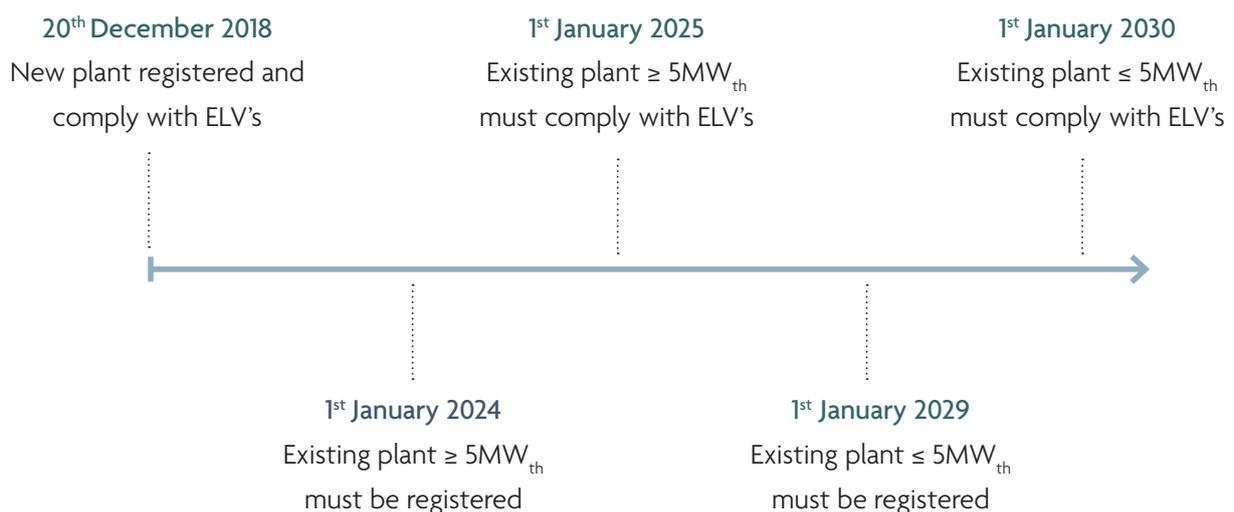


Medium Combustion Plant Directive (MCPD)

The Emission Limit Value's become Regulatory from December 2018 – What does this mean for you and how can Hilson Moran help?

The MCPD (EU 2015/2193) entered into European Legislation on the 18th December 2015, and was subsequently transposed into UK law on the 19th December 2017. The purpose of the MCPD is to regulate emissions of sulphur dioxide (SO₂), nitrogen oxides (NO_x) and dust from combustion plant with a rated thermal input ≥ 1 MW_{th} and < 50 MW_{th} with the aim of reducing those emissions and the risks to human health and the environment they may cause. It outlines rules to monitor emissions of carbon monoxide (CO).

The Emission Limit Value's (ELV's) set out in the MCPD become regulatory from 20th December 2018 for new plants and by 2025 or 2030 for existing plants, depending on their size (see time line below).



Are there different Emission Limit Value's (ELV's) for different Medium Combustion Plant (MCP)?

Yes, different ELV's apply to different MCP including:

- Existing MCP's with a rated thermal input ≥ 1 MW and ≤ 5 MW, excluding engines and gas turbines;
- Existing MCP's with a rated thermal input > 5 MW, excluding engines and gas turbines;
- Existing engines and gas turbines;
- New MCP's, excluding engines and gas turbines; and,
- New engines and gas turbines.

Importantly, the fuel type of the MCP can also affect the ELV's.

We know that the level of complexity can cause confusion, but we at Hilson Moran understand and are here to help!

Who will this affect?

Currently, across England and Wales it is estimated that there are over 30,000 MCP's operating providing heat and power for large scale development including residential, education, healthcare and industry to name a few. Additionally, MCP's are often used as a back-up to provide additional power to the national grid during peak energy demand.

What the Operator's Obligations?

It is likely that the MCPD will be implemented via an Environmental Permitting system. In summary, operator's obligations are, but not limited to:

- Obtaining the relevant environmental permits (a fee will be payable to the regulator) and operate within the limits of the designated permit;
- Ensure compliance with the ELV's;
- Comply with the emissions monitoring frequency and retain all monitoring records to demonstrate compliance with the ELV's for a set period of time;
- Keep a record of non-compliance events, malfunctions of abatement technology and periods of shut down.

Are there any exceptions?

Your generator is fully exempt from meeting the MCPD ELV's, and no further action is required if it qualifies for one of the exemptions below:

- Back-up generator (generators operating to supply power during an on-site emergency e.g. a power cut) which are operated for the purpose of testing for no more than 50 hours per year (operation to provide power on site during an emergency is unrestricted); or,
- Generators operating under a nuclear site licence
- If generators are used to generate power during non-emergency conditions i.e. for 'energy balancing' purposes, or onsite testing 50 hours per annum then these generators will require further consideration.

What Next?

Hilson Moran can support your organisation to ensure you comply with the new legislation by:

- Providing guidance on obtaining environmental permits;
- Providing advice on ELV's and monitoring requirements for new and existing MCP;
- Review existing and new MCP and advise on the likelihood of compliance;
- Undertake detailed air quality dispersion modelling;
- Determine stack height requirements for MCP, where appropriate; and,
- Undertake feasibility studies for the fitting of abatement to existing MCP.

For further information please contact our Air Quality expert, Tom Reade e: treade@hilsonmoran.com