13 January 2017

Natural Resources Wales (NRW) has published an updated list of hazardous substances on the [JAGDAG](http://wfduk.org/) (Joint Agencies Groundwater Directive Advisory Group) section of the UKTAG (UK Technical Advisory Group on the WFD) website.

We (and the Environment Agency) will use the updated list in our regulatory decision making process from 16 January 2017, for new activities that may lead to the discharge of hazardous substances to groundwater.

Hazardous substances In Wales [and England] are regulated through the Environmental Permitting (England and Wales) Regulations 2016 in accordance with the WG/DEFRA [Environmental permitting Guidance for groundwater activities](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/69474/pb13555-ep-groundwater-activities-101221.pdf), and the approach outlined in [GP3.](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/297347/LIT_7660_9a3742.pdf)

The current list of minimum reporting values ([MRV](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/values-for-groundwater-risk-assessments/hazardous-substances-to-groundwater-minimum-reporting-values)) that support regulation of hazardous substances in Wales has not changed. If a MRV for a hazardous substance of interest to your activity is not available in the published list, please contact NRW, where a value using the approach outlined in GP3 will be provided.

On 16 January 2017 UKTAG published its [**Technical Report on Groundwater Hazardous Substances**](http://wfduk.org/resources/groundwater-hazardous-substances-standards)**,** whichNRW (and the EA) will consider, and incorporate into current regulatory approaches and guidance if appropriate. NRW will ensure regulation remains effective and proportionate taking into account the goals of the [Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015](http://gov.wales/topics/people-and-communities/people/future-generations-act/?lang=en). We will keep in touch with industry via their normal communication routes, particularly regarding any transitional arrangements that may need to be agreed.

# How this may affect your permit

If your activity has a permit issued before 16 January 2017, NRW will continue to regulate the activity in line with your existing permit conditions.

NRW will review all permits issued before 16 January 2017, at an appropriate time in their regulatory cycle, in line with the existing arrangements for your industry sector.  If you want to bring your review date forward, this will need to be discussed with your local site inspector.

The permit review may show you need to implement new or amended measures.

These measures will only be required where considered ‘necessary and reasonable’ in accordance with the WG/DEFRA [Environmental permitting Guidance for groundwater activities](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/69474/pb13555-ep-groundwater-activities-101221.pdf).