

Non-Technical Summary

A Pollution Prevention Control (PPC) permit (Ref: PPC/A/1110002) was granted by the Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA) to Viridor (Glasgow) Ltd (Viridor) for the Glasgow Recycling & Renewable Energy Centre (GRREC) on 21 August 2014. GRREC comprises a Materials Recycling Facility, an anaerobic digestion plant and an Advanced Conversion Facility (the Facility) which processes incoming non-hazardous waste in three separate waste processing lines.

Viridor is proposing to vary the PPC permit for the to allow for an increase in the hourly waste processing capacity of the Facility from 19.5 to 22.5 tonnes per hour (tph), equivalent to 7.5 tonnes per line, and an increase in the annual waste processing capacity of the Facility from 154,000 to 197,100 tonnes per annum (tpa).

The proposed increase in capacity will allow Viridor to process higher volumes of waste from surrounding local councils; the necessity of which is due to the incoming landfill ban which takes effect from the 1st of January 2026. Increasing the capacity of GRREC will be critical in achieving zero waste to landfill aims whilst generating energy. The increased capacity will also provide GRREC with improved resilience to prevent waste going to landfill during periods of outage.

Whilst the proposed changes may result in a small increase in the volumes of process effluent generated by the Facility, this will be accommodated within the existing constraints of the Scottish Water Trade Effluent Consent. No change to the composition of the effluent is expected as a consequence of the increased throughput.

The MRF and AD process demonstrated during the extended trial the ability to support the higher throughput rate for the ACF. The AD capacity is not directly impacted by an increase in waste inputs to Facility; however, once cleaned may have additional processing capacity. The MRF, as a direct consequence of the increased waste inputs to site will need to run for additional time each week. With ongoing optimisation of the MRF meaning less downtime for blockages, the additional throughput will be offset meaning no constraints on maintenance.

As demonstrated within this application, the proposed changes will not have a significant impact on human health or the environment.

This application is being submitted as a substantial variation to the PPC permit.