Non- Waste Framework Directive (NWFD) exemptions



Temporary storage at the place of production

What are the NWFD exemptions?

There are some exemptions that do not have to be registered. These are called non-Waste Framework Directive exemptions.

Although you do not have to register these exemptions you still must comply with the terms and conditions of the exemptions.

There are three of these exemptions:

- Temporary storage at the place of production (this guidance note relates to this exemption);
- Temporary storage of waste at a place controlled by the producer; and
- Temporary storage at a collection point.

What is the purpose of this exemption?

This exemption allows you to temporarily store any waste at the place of production, pending its collection.

What types of activities can I do?

You can only store waste in a secure place at the place of production.

You can also carry out some treatments on the waste to help with storage and collection. Examples of these activities are given in 'What else do I need to know?'

Where can I carry out this activity?

Only at the place where the waste is produced.

What can't I do?

You can't store waste at your site that was produced somewhere else. This means that you can't bring waste from lots of different sites back to one site under this exemption.

How long can I store waste for?

The waste must not be stored for longer than 12 months.

What are the key conditions?

The waste must be stored in a secure place.

What else do I need to know?

You do not need to register this exemption.

You must comply with the conditions and limits set in this exemption. Non-compliance is an offence.

Ancillary treatments

You can carry out some treatment operations to make the waste you have produced easier to store and collect for its recovery or disposal elsewhere. These are called 'ancillary treatments'.

Any ancillary treatment carried out must not result in a change in the characteristics of the waste. The treatment carried out must be purely to help with the transport or collection of different wastes. The following are examples of some of the treatments that can be considered ancillary to the collection of waste:

- compaction of paper and cardboard in order to increase the amount of waste that can be stored within a container:
- shredding confidential papers for security purposes;
- crushing or compacting large items to allow easier loading;
- separating recyclables such as paper, card, plastic and glass from mixed wastes into separate storage containers.

What wastes can be used under this exemption?

Any waste can be temporarily stored at the place of production pending its collection.

Definitions

'Collection' means the gathering of waste, including the preliminary sorting and preliminary storage of waste for the purposes of transport to a waste treatment facility.

'Place of production' means, in relation to any waste, the place where the waste was originally produced.

'Secure place' means a place is secure in relation to waste kept in it if all reasonable precautions are taken to ensure that the waste cannot escape from it and members of the public are unable to gain access to the waste.

'NWFD exemption'

Schedule 25 of the Regulations includes waste operations that are not waste recovery or disposal operations within the meaning of the Waste Framework Directive. These are referred to as non-Waste Framework Directive exemptions. They do not need to be registered as registration is a requirement of the Waste Framework Directive. The exemptions however, are necessary. Without them a person carrying out those operations will be in contravention of S33(1)(a) Environmental Protection Act 1990, as the deposit of waste must be carried out either in accordance with an environmental permit or exemption.

The full 'Glossary of terms' can be viewed here