

# Permitting decisions

## Surrender

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We have decided to accept the surrender of the permit for Centrica Killingholme Power Station operated by Centrica KPS Limited.

The permit number is EPR/SP3133LY/S007.

We are satisfied that the necessary measures have been taken to avoid any pollution risk and to return the site to a satisfactory state. We consider in reaching that decision we have taken into account all relevant considerations and legal requirements.

### Purpose of this document

This decision document provides a record of the decision making process. It summarises the decision making process in the decision checklist to show how all relevant factors have been taken into account. This decision document provides a record of the decision making process. It summarises the decision making process in the [decision checklist](#) to show how all relevant factors have been taken into account.

Unless the decision document specifies otherwise we have accepted the applicant's proposals. Read the permitting decisions in conjunction with the environmental permit and the surrender notice. The introductory note summarises what the notice covers.

A decision has been made to surrender the environmental permit and to sell the Killingholme Power Station (KPS) site. Centrica KPS notified the Environment Agency on 21 July 2016 of the decision to cease operations at KPS (EPR/SP3133LY). KPS entered into commercial operation for National Power in 1994 and was acquired and operated by Centrica from July 2004. It had an electrical power output of 665MW(e) and comprised of three Large Combustion Plants (LCPs) operated as Combined Cycle Gas Turbines (CCGT) with a net thermal input as follows:

- LCP 52 – 428MWth CCGT
- LCP 53 - 428MWth CCGT
- LCP 54 - 452MWth CCGT.

The surrender wasn't granted immediately as a large quantity of PCB-free oil was to remain on site in the transformers (about 285 tonnes) and lubricating and hydraulic oils in the power generation plant/turbines (about 70 tonnes) until the sale of the site/re-use during the demolition phase. With the hydraulic, lubricating and transformer oils remaining on the Centrica Killingholme site, there was still a pollution risk present. Therefore, the surrender of the permit was not approved until these had been removed from the site and it was confirmed that no residual contamination had been caused from their presence/storage after site decommissioning.

A final inspection of the site by the Environment Agency confirmed that these units had been removed from the site and that no residual contamination had been caused.

## Decision checklist

Aspect considered	Decision
<b>Receipt of application</b>	
Confidential information	A claim for commercial or industrial confidentiality has not been made.
Identifying confidential information	We have not identified any information provided as part of the application that we consider to be confidential.
<b>The site</b>	
Pollution risk	We are satisfied that the necessary measures have been taken to avoid a pollution risk resulting from the operation of the regulated facility.
Satisfactory state	We are satisfied that the necessary measures have been taken to return the site of the regulated facility to a satisfactory state. In coming to this decision we have had regard to the state of the site before the facility was put into operation.
<b>Growth Duty</b>	
Section 108 Deregulation Act 2015 – Growth duty	<p>We have considered our duty to have regard to the desirability of promoting economic growth set out in section 108(1) of the Deregulation Act 2015 and the guidance issued under section 110 of that Act in deciding whether to grant this permit surrender. Paragraph 1.3 of the guidance says:</p> <p>“The primary role of regulators, in delivering regulation, is to achieve the regulatory outcomes for which they are responsible. For a number of regulators, these regulatory outcomes include an explicit reference to development or growth. The growth duty establishes economic growth as a factor that all specified regulators should have regard to, alongside the delivery of the protections set out in the relevant legislation.”</p> <p>We have addressed the legislative requirements and environmental standards to be set for this operation in the body of the decision document above. The guidance is clear at paragraph 1.5 that the growth duty does not legitimise non-compliance and its purpose is not to achieve or pursue economic growth at the expense of necessary protections.</p>