



## Ireland

Pollutant emissions from a facility in Ireland and its environmental management are regulated by the Environmental Protection Agency (<http://www.epa.ie/>) under the Integrated Pollution Control licensing system, and is governed by the *Environmental Protection Agency Act 1992* as amended. As a member state of the European Union (EU), Ireland has transposed a series of EU directives relating to power plant emissions into law, including the *Industrial Emissions Directive* (IED, 2010/75/EU). The IED was transposed by the *European Union (Industrial Emissions) Regulations 2013* (Statutory Instruments S.I. no. 138 of 2013) and the *Environmental Protection Agency (Industrial Emissions) (Licensing) Regulations 2013* (S.I. no. 137 of 2013) (see <http://www.epa.ie/pubs/legislation/industrialemissionslicensing/>). The EU *Medium Combustion Plant Directive*, providing emission limit values for existing and new combustion plants with a total rated thermal input of 1–50 MW, has not yet been transposed into Irish legislation (transposition is required by 17 December 2017).

### Large combustion plants

The emission limits for large combustion plants (>50 MWth) are given in the *European Union (Large Combustion Plants) Regulations 2012* (S.I. no. 566 of 2012) and came into operation on 7 January 2013 (see <http://www.epa.ie/pubs/legislation/industrialemissionslicensing/>).

### Particulate matter emission limits

Total rated thermal input, MW	Existing plants, mg/Nm <sup>3</sup>	New plants, mg/Nm <sup>3</sup>
50-100	30	20
100-300	25	20
>300	20	10

### SO<sub>2</sub> emission limits

Total rated thermal input, MW	Existing plants*, mg/Nm <sup>3</sup>	New plants, mg/Nm <sup>3</sup>
50-100	400	400
100-300	250	200
>300	200	150
		200 for circulating or pressurised fluidised bed combustion

\* Plants which were granted a licence, or had submitted an application for one, before 27 November 2002 and were operating prior to 27 November 2003 can meet a limit of 800 mg/Nm<sup>3</sup>, provided they do not operate for more than 1500 hours as a rolling average over 5 years.

If able to demonstrate that these emissions limits are impossible to meet due to fuel characteristics, plants using domestic solid fuels have the option of instead meeting the desulphurisation rates given in the following table:

Total rated thermal power input, MW	Plants operational prior to 2003*	Other existing plants	New plants
50-100	80%	92%	93%
100-300	90%	92%	93%
>300	96%	96%	97%

\* Plants which were granted a licence, or had submitted an application for one, before 27 November 2002 and were in operation before 27 November 2003.

### NO<sub>x</sub> emission limits

Total rated thermal input, MW	Existing plants*, mg/Nm <sup>3</sup>	New plants, mg/Nm <sup>3</sup>
50-100	300 450 for pulverised lignite combustion	300 400 for pulverised lignite combustion
100-300	200	200
>300	200	150 200 for pulverised lignite combustion

\* 1. Plants with a total rated thermal input under 500 MW that were granted a licence, or had submitted an application for one, before 27 November 2002 and were operating prior to 27 November 2003 can meet a limit of 450 mg/Nm<sup>3</sup>, provided they do not operate for more than 1500 hours as a rolling average over 5 years.

2. Plants with a total rated thermal input over 500 MW that were granted a permit before 1 July 1987 can meet a limit of 450 mg/Nm<sup>3</sup>, provided they do not operate for more than 1500 hours as a rolling average over 5 years.

### General notes

1. 'Existing plant' means any combustion plant which was granted a licence by the Environmental Protection Agency before 7 January 2013, or the operator had submitted a complete application for a licence before this date, provided the plant was put into operation no later than 7 January 2014.
2. Existing plants which were exempted from compliance with the emission limit values because they operated for less than 20,000 hours over the period 1 January 2008 to 31 December 2015, but are still operating after 1 January 2016 have to meet the emission limits for new plants.
3. 'New plants' are plants not covered by the existing plants definition.
4. All the above emission limit values are expressed at 0°C, 101.3 kPa, on a dry basis, and with 6% of O<sub>2</sub> in the flue gas.

This paper reflects the IEA CCC understanding of the relevant legislation and is not a substitute for the official version. The IEA CCC does not guarantee the accuracy of the data included in this paper and accepts no responsibility for any consequences of their use.

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