

From: envsection <bury.gov.uk>

Sent: 08 December 2025 17:51

To: Booth, Claire <bury.gov.uk>

Subject: RE: Initial Consultation on Planning Application 72520, Unit 1, Jubilee Works, Vale Street, Radcliffe, Bolton, BL2 6QF - Air Quality only

Hi Claire,

AIR QUALITY – Biomass Boilers Comments

The application comprises the installation of an *88kW output E-Classic 3200 model external free standing biomass boiler* on a concrete slab. The application area is located within a Smoke Control Area (Bury No.11 (Ainsworth) Smoke Control Order 1994). Any biomass boiler operated in a Smoke Control Area must be an exempt appliance. Please provide evidence that the proposed boiler is listed as an exempt appliance on the Defra website:

<https://smokecontrol.defra.gov.uk/search.php?type=appliances>.

Biomass boilers are potentially a source of air pollution. Pollutants associated with biomass combustion include particulate matter (PM₁₀/PM_{2.5}) and nitrogen oxides (NO_x) emissions. These pollution emissions can have an impact on local air quality and affect human health. An Air Quality Emissions Screening Assessment is required and should be based on the calculation methodology and threshold emissions rates published within 'Technical Guidance: Screening assessment for biomass boilers' prepared by AEA Energy and Environment for DEFRA and the Devolved Administrations ([Technical Guidance: Screening assessment for biomass boilers \(defra.gov.uk\)](#)). Please ensure that the calculations consider the worst-case scenario as described in government guidance: "The Potential Air Quality Impacts from Biomass Combustion", Air Quality Expert Group, 2017 ([AQEG Biomass report.pdf \(defra.gov.uk\)](#)). The cumulative emissions all the boilers running at the same time should be considered.

If the Screening Assessment identifies the potential for exceedances of Air Quality Objectives, then a Detailed Air Quality Assessment may be required.

The following further information required before this Section can fully assess the applicant and recommend any appropriate conditions:

- An Air Quality Emissions Screening Assessment.
- Detailed Air Quality Assessment if required.
- Evidence that the proposed boiler is listed as an exempt appliance on the Defra website
- Preventative maintenance plan for all biomass boilers.

Further information on biomass boilers and air quality planning can also be viewed [here](#).

Regards,

Sally

Sally Shaw
Environmental Protection
Bury Council