

Consenting & Compliance for Industrial Boilers & Process Heat Under the new NPS-GHG and NES-GHG

Are you ready?



New Directions for Industrial Greenhouse Gas Emissions

The new National Policy Statement and National Environmental Standards for greenhouse gases from industrial process heat require regional councils to consider the effects of greenhouse gas emissions on climate change.

The industrial sector must adapt to these legislative changes to ensure that industrial process heat operations meet compliance standards. This alignment is essential for promoting sustainable management and minimising environmental impact*.

*Further detail in these requirements can be found in The National Policy Statement for Greenhouse Gases from Industrial Process Heat 2023 (NPS-GHG), and Resource Management (National Environmental Standards for Greenhouse Gas Emissions from Industrial Process Heat) Regulations 2023 (NES-GHG). Both are under the Resource Management Act 1991.

Key Legislation Requirements

Consent Thresholds

Fossil fuel-based sites emitting over 500 tons of CO₂-equivalent (tCO₂e) annually must submit a consent application, accompanied by an emission plan. Sites emitting more than 2,000 tCO₂e require a consent application and an independently reviewed emission plan.

Emission Plans

All consent applications must now include an emission plan detailing how GHG emissions will be mitigated. Emission plans involve outlining actions and methods to reduce GHG emissions to meet reduction targets. Emission plans must also assess the best practicable option (BPO) to minimise adverse climate impacts. Sites exceeding 2,000 tCO₂e require their emission plans be reviewed by a qualified practitioner.

Consent & Compliance

Sites without a discharge to air consent that exceed the thresholds are required to develop an emission plan and hold a resource consent by **26 January 2025**.

To minimise possible disruptions to site operations, sites should ensure they are below the emission thresholds or hold an active consent by this date.

Sites with an existing discharge to air consent will need to include an emission plan as part of the re-consenting process at the expiry of the existing consent.



Babbage Expertise for Compliance

This change may be a cause for concern for sites without consents or sites with expiring consents. The new thresholds will encompass significantly more boilers than previous regional megawatt capacity thresholds used for discharge to air consents.

Babbage can help assist during this change, and offers whole package services that ensure your business is compliant and ready for the new regulations.

How can we help?

We can provide:

- Audits/Feasibility Studies to identify current site loads and reduction opportunities
- Development and writing of emission plans
- Independent review and verification of existing emission plans

Resource Consenting

We have extensive experience in projects within New Zealand's industrial sector, and can help determine whether your process heat system requires consent under the new regulations. We can also assist in preparing and submitting applications if needed.

Contact Us

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