

From Strategy to Reality: Safer Operations in Energy from Waste

A Comprehensive Approach for Effective Fire and Explosion Atmosphere Risk Assessment

Fire & DSEAR Risk Assessment at an Energy from Waste Plant

Background

One of our FM partners asked us to carry out both a Fire Risk Assessment and a DSEAR Risk Assessment at an Energy from Waste facility. Rather than treating them as separate exercises, we combined the site work and were able to minimise disruption and reduce overall cost. This approach gave the operator a practical, compliant review that reflected daily operations with minimal disruption.

The Challenge

Energy from Waste facilities bring together a unique mix of fire and explosion risks. Waste streams are large, variable and often highly combustible. Processes generate dusts, vapours and gases with explosive potential, all within complex plant layouts where mechanical, electrical and chemical systems meet. The challenge was to provide an assessment of both fire safety and explosive atmospheres in a way that was efficient, consistent and easy for the operator to act on.



Our Approach

By delivering the Fire Risk Assessment and DSEAR review in a single coordinated visit, York Green was able to provide the operator with clear benefits. Site time was reduced, minimising disruption to operations, while the assessments were aligned to ensure consistency in reporting. Looking at fire and explosion risks together also gave a fuller picture of the site, making it easier to understand how hazards, controls and compliance duties overlap.

Outcome

The operator received risk assessments that worked together rather than in isolation. The reports followed a consistent structure, making the findings clear and easy to act on and provided a joined-up view of how fire and explosion risks interact across the facility. The outcome was a prioritised action plan, giving the operator clarity, efficiency and confidence in how risks are being managed.

“Working with York Green was straightforward from start to finish. They were well-prepared and clearly understood the challenges of running an EfW facility and carried out the Fire and DSEAR assessments efficiently. The reports were clear, well-structured and easy to act on. What really stood out was how practical their recommendations were, they made sense for our people and our plant. We came away with a real sense of confidence that we’re managing fire and explosion risks in the right way.”

Nick Cooke - H&S Manager, Enfinium