



Latest update from BCS

RBP Inoculum Inhibition Procedure - New Request Form

We have produced a new PAS 110 Analysis Request Form to use when sending site inoculum to an Approved Laboratory for RBP testing following an invalid RBP test result (and authorisation).

In accordance with the procedure below, which can be found in the BCS Position on RBP Inoculum Inhibition available [here](#), the form will be issued by REAL with a specific code.

- If an operator finds their digestate sample is causing inoculum inhibition, they should contact REAL immediately to discuss. An email should be sent to info@realschemes.org.uk.
- REAL will discuss with individual operators or their representatives the feedstock composition and process parameters and any recent changes to either of these.
- Following discussion (and confirmation of the issue), REAL will authorise sending an alternative inoculum with a digestate sample for parallel RBP testing. *The labs can provide further guidance/advice on suitable site inocula (these should be depleted of primary and intermediate substances i.e., fairly stable in terms of biogas production).*
- REAL will request that completed parallel test results are shared by the operator or their representative to provide further insight into longer term management of this issue.
- Operators wishing to adopt this approach for future tests should again contact REAL for authorisation unless otherwise indicated.

Parallel test runs are required to ensure a suitable alternative inoculum can be provided by the individual site i.e., to ensure confidence in the approach for individual sites. To minimise the cost of parallel RBP testing for operators, REAL will authorise operators to only use a site inoculum after a minimum of two successful sets of parallel test runs.

In the event authorisation is given for parallel testing, REAL will issue the new PAS 110 Analysis Request Form with a code to enter on the form. The form + code must be sent in with the site inoculum. The current request form (available [here](#)) must be used with the normal digestate sample.

In the event authorisation is given for testing using site inoculum only, REAL will issue a different code to enter on the new request form. The form + code must be sent in with the site inoculum.

The form will be available to use from Monday 1st November. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to email us at info@realschemes.org.uk.

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