

Compliance Assessment Report

Report ID:
CAR_NRW0033260

This form will report compliance with your permit as determined by an NRW officer

Site	Port Talbot Steel Works	Permit Ref	BL7108IM		
Operator/Permit holder	Tata Steel UK Limited				
Regime	Installations				
Date of assessment	28/03/2018	Time in	09:30	Out	13:00
Assessment type	Audit				
Parts of the permit assessed	1 Management; 2 Operations; 3 Emissions and Monitoring; 4 Information				
Lead officer's name	Broom, Mark				
Accompanied by	Cowie, Douglas,Gibson, Paul				
Recipient's name/position	Claire Grainger/ Environment Manager	Date issued	30/10/2018		

Section 1 – Compliance Assessment Summary

This is based on the requirements of the permit under the Environmental Permitting Regulations or the licence under the Water Resources Act 1991 as amended by the Water Act 2003. A detailed explanation is captured in "Compliance Assessment Report Detail" (Section 2) and any actions you may need to take are given in the "Action(s)" (section 4). This summary details where we believe any non-compliance with the permit has occurred, the relevant condition and how the non-compliance has been categorised using our Compliance Classification Scheme (CCS). CCS Scores can be consolidated or suspended where appropriate, to reflect the impact of some non-compliances more accurately. For more details of our CCS scheme, contact your local office.

Permit conditions and compliance summary	CCS Category	Condition(s) breached
A1 - Specified by permit	A	
B3 - Infrastructure - Site drainage engineering (clean and foul)	A	
B5 - Infrastructure - Plant and equipment	A	
C2 - General Management - Management system and operating procedures	A	
E2 - Emissions - Land and groundwater	A	
E3 - Emissions - Surface water	A	
F1 - Amenity - Odour	A	
F2 - Amenity - Noise	A	
F3 - Amenity - Dust/fibres/particulates and litter	A	
G1 - Monitoring and Records, Maintenance and Reporting - Monitoring of emissions and environment	A	
G2 - Monitoring and Records, Maintenance and Reporting - Records of activity, site diary/journal/events	A	
H1 - Resource Efficiency - Efficient use of raw materials	A	
H2 - Resource Efficiency - Energy efficiency	A	

KEY: See Section 5 for breach categories, suspended scores will be indicated as such.
A = Assessed or assessed in part (no evidence of non-compliance), **X** = Action only,
O = Ongoing non-compliance, not scored.

Number of breaches recorded	0	Total compliance score (see section 5 for scoring scheme)	0
-----------------------------	---	---	---

If the Number of breaches recorded is greater than zero, please see Section 3 for our proposed enforcement response

Section 2 – Compliance Assessment Report Detail

This section contains a report of our findings and will usually include information on:

- The part(s) of the permit that were assessed (eg. Maintenance, training, combustion plant, etc)
- Where the type of assessment was 'Data Review' details of the report/results triggering the assessment
- Any non-compliances identified
- Any non-compliances with directly applicable legislation
- Details of any multiple non-compliances
- Information on the compliance score accrued inc.
- Details of advice given
- Any other areas of concern
- Any actions requested
- Any examples of good practice
- A reference to photos taken

Site description

Tata Steel UK Ltd (Tata Steel) operates an integrated iron and steel works at Port Talbot, Neath Port Talbot. The site is permitted as an installation under the Environmental Permitting Regulations (EPR). Tata Steel has several defined industrial processes which are carried out sequentially across the installation to convert raw iron ores and coal to semi-finished (slab) and finished steel products (such as hot rolled, pickled and oiled, cold rolled and annealed steel). The permit also covers coke making and the reception, stockpiling and blending of raw iron making materials. Four other companies – Cambrian Stone, Harsco Metals, Runtech and ICL – are contracted to undertake their own permitted activities at the steelworks on Tata Steel's behalf.

Purpose of visit/assessment

To review the complaint issues reported to Tata Steel over two previous quarters of operation (October 17 – December 17 and January 18 – March 18 inclusive).

We met with the Hub Director of Port Talbot steelworks, Mr Jon Ferriman, to discuss the proposed joint venture (JV) between Tata Steel Europe and thyssenkrupp. We took the opportunity to check alignment between Tata Steel's high level environmental priorities and NRW's regulatory focus for the steelworks.

The final part of this intervention focused on Tata's power generation enhancement project and the environmental permissions needed to carry out preparatory dewatering works at the construction site.

The relevant permit conditions are listed under Sections 1.1, 2.1, 2.3, 3.1, 3.2, 3.3, 3.4, 3.5, 3.7, 4.1, 4.2, 4.3 and 4.4 of Tata's permit.

Person(s) present

Tata Steel

Jon Ferriman (JV & environmental priorities)
Neil Haines (complaints)
David Anderson (complaints)
Claire Grainger
Guy Simms (power generation project)
Rob Naylor (power generation project)
Peter Knight (power generation project)

Turley Associates

Owen Francis (power generation project)

NRW

Paul Gibson
Mark Broom

Q3 & Q4 2017/18 complaints

Tata collate their complaints in a spreadsheet and they use this document to track their contact and close out with each report. Complaints received during the third and fourth financial quarters (Oct – Dec, Jan – Mar) of 2017/18 have included: visible dust fallout, blast furnace releases and noise. The number of complaints received has dropped compared to the first two quarters of 2017/18.

Seasonal and meteorological influences may partially explain the reduced numbers of complaints since October 2017. The dominant complaint topics (dust fallout, blast furnace releases and noise) are replicated in the complaints reported directly to NRW over the same period. In response, Tata Steel has increased the frequency of its dust fallout 'task team' meeting from monthly to fortnightly. Improvements to dust management and control systems across the steelworks are linked to Tata Steel's capital expenditure (CAPEX) plan. An update will be presented to NRW at the next quarterly CAPEX meeting in October 2017.

Tata Steel Group Environment are supporting the Strip Products SHE Team and are leading a review of emissions abatement systems across the steelworks. This review includes how these systems are maintained as well as their performance. Work will start at the coke ovens, stockyards and blast furnaces.

NRW and Tata Steel continue to receive complaints about steelworks noise. The previous power plant noise issues have now been resolved, and the focus has returned to lower-frequency, continuous droning noise which is perceived to be coming from the sinter plant. Tata's engineers plan to replace one of the main waste gas system fans during the next major outage (week 18). When this work is undertaken there will be an opportunity to check the alignment and balance of the fan motor and drive system; any misalignment has the potential to generate noise.

NRW encourages Tata Steel to take advantage of the opportunity to conduct sound monitoring before, during and after planned sinter plant stops such as the one scheduled for week 18. Such monitoring may help establish a 'background' sound level i.e. when the sinter plant is not operating. NRW is happy to review and comment on any proposed sound monitoring regimes or analytical reports.

Tata Steel's EIF (environmental incident) system continues to be dominated by the Basic Oxygen Steelmaking (BOS) plant. Use of the EIF system is well-established within this area of the steelworks and is commonly used in response to converter 'slop' events. Notified breaches of permitted emission limit values at the sinter plant and long sea outfall also appear on this system. The SHE Team have supported manufacturing areas around the steelworks to promote use of the EIF system for this type of event.

An increasing proportion of complaints are associated with fume releases from the furnace cast houses. The SHE Team have audited cast house EIFs and compared them against complaint data/reports of visual emissions. Work is ongoing in this area to improve consistency and reliability of tap hole performance and casting activities.

Tata Steel has improved the resources available to the SHE Team for community liaison and complaint response. A new dedicated community support specialist will shortly join the team to augment the support already being provided by Tata Group Environment. A new policy is being developed which relates to complaint visits and cleaning of property in response to impact from specific events. Finally, the company is routinely contacting community representatives e.g. Councillors to update them about the steps Tata Steel is taking in response to environmental complaints.

Hub Director meeting

We met Jon Ferriman who provided an update on the proposed joint venture between Tata Steel Europe and thyssenkrupp of Germany. Negotiations between the two companies were ongoing at the time of our visit.

Our discussion allowed us to check alignment between Tata Steel's high-level environmental priorities and NRW's regulatory focus for Port Talbot steelworks. We were pleased to note that these did broadly align, particularly in respect of the sinter plant, coke ovens, PM10 and visible (nuisance) dust sources.

Power generation enhancement project

A Development Consent Order (DCO) was approved in 2015 for construction of enhanced power generation equipment at Port Talbot steelworks. The original project involved the construction of two new boilers and the replacement of older generating equipment.

More recently the project has been split into phases to take into account new capital expenditure constraints and targets. This approach will still allow progressive and timely improvement of the steelworks' on-site power generation capacity. Initially a group of turbo-alternators will be replaced, and one new boiler constructed adjacent to the existing power plant.

A series of DCO requirements (conditions) must be discharged before construction work can commence. One requirement relates to the fate of groundwater which will need to be extracted or 'dewatered' from site excavations. During this meeting we discussed the necessary permissions for dewatering and an effluent treatment and disposal strategy.

The Water Abstraction and Impounding (Exemptions) Regulations 2017 provides for an exemption from the requirement to hold an abstraction licence for this type of work:

Small scale dewatering in the course of building or engineering works

5.—(1) The restriction on abstraction does not apply to an abstraction or series of abstractions of water carried out in the course of building or engineering works for the purpose of dewatering from a sump or excavation if—

- (a) the abstraction or series of abstractions are temporary and in any event carried out over a period of less than six consecutive months beginning with commencement of the first abstraction,
- (b) each abstraction does not cause or is not likely to cause damage to a conservation site or specific features in such a site,
- (c) each abstraction does not cause or is not likely to cause damage to protected species, and
- (d) either—
 - (i) the water abstracted is immediately discharged to a soakaway, or
 - (ii) the volume of water abstracted is less than 100 cubic metres of water per day and there is no intervening use of that water before discharge (but see paragraph (2)).

(2) Where the abstraction is undertaken within 500 metres of a conservation site or within 250 metres of a spring, well or borehole used to supply water for any lawful use, paragraph (1)(d)(ii) applies in respect of that abstraction as if the reference to 100 cubic metres of water per day were a reference to 50 cubic metres of water per day.

We agreed that this exemption could apply to the proposed dewatering works. Key criteria include a six-month consecutive time limit, and a maximum abstraction volume of 100 cubic metres per day. Tata Steel should seek an abstraction licence from NRW if the exemption requirements laid out in the regulations cannot be met.

Tata are seeking to use their on-site steelworks effluent treatment system to receive, treat, and discharge the dewatering effluent via the existing permitted discharge point at the Long Sea Outfall (LSO). The project team proposes to pre-treat this effluent before it enters the works effluent system using an on-site silt/solids removal system and a granular activated carbon filter. Effluent quality will be monitored regularly and compared with Tata Steel's permitted emission limit values (ELVs) at the LSO.

NRW agrees with this proposed approach in principle, although the onus will remain on Tata Steel to comply with the permitted ELVs for its surface water discharges. Abstraction should be suspended if:

- permit non-compliance is traced and attributed to inputs of dewatering effluent from these works;
- any adverse impact on steelworks effluent treatment capacity is detected; or
- significant elevated levels of pollutants are detected by the on-site monitoring regime.

Other matters

An update was provided regarding Tata Steel's on-site ambient air quality monitoring network. Tata is pursuing options to replace some of its existing monitors. The preferred approach is to use solar powered multi-parameter devices (PM10 and some gaseous pollutants). Use of solar powered systems means that monitoring locations are no longer constrained by proximity to a mains power supply and can be deployed more flexibly. Tata will review its existing monitoring network to take into account the greater flexibility offered by this new approach.

[ENDS]

EPR Compliance Assessment Report

**Report ID:
CAR_NRW0033260**

This form will report compliance with your permit as determined by an NRW officer

Site	Port Talbot Steel Works	Permit Ref	BL7108IM
Operator/Permit holder	Tata Steel UK Limited	Date	28/03/2018

Section 3 – Enforcement Response

You must take immediate action to rectify any non-compliance and prevent repetition. Non-compliance with your permit conditions constitutes an offence and can result in criminal prosecutions and/or suspension or revocation of a permit. Please read the detailed assessment in Section 2 and the steps you need to take in Section 4 below.

Section 4 – Action(s)

This section summarises the actions identified during the assessment along with the timescales for when they will need to be completed.

Criteria Ref.	CCS Category	Action required/advised	Due Date
See Section 1 above			

Section 5 – Compliance notes for the Operator

To ensure you correct actual or potential non-compliance we may

- Advise on corrective actions verbally or in writing
- Require you to take specific actions verbally or in writing
- Issue a notice
- Require you to review your procedures or management system
- Change some of the conditions of your permit
- Decide to undertake a full review of your permit

Any breach of a permit condition is an offence and we may take legal action against you

- We will normally provide advice and guidance to assist you to come back into compliance either after an offence is committed or where we consider that an offence is likely to be committed. This is without prejudice to any other enforcement response that we consider may be required.
- Enforcement action can include the issue of a formal caution, prosecution, the service of a notice and/or suspension or revocation of the permit.

See our Enforcement and Civil Sanctions guidance for further information

This report does not relieve the site operator of the responsibility to

- Ensure you comply with the conditions of the permit at all times and prevent pollution of the environment
- Ensure you comply with other legislative provisions which may apply

Non-compliance scores and categories

CCS category	Description	Score
C1	A non-compliance that could have a major environmental effect	60
C2	A non-compliance which could have a significant environmental effect	31
C3	A non-compliance which could have a minor environmental effect	4
C4	A non-compliance which has no potential environmental effect	0.1

Operational Risk Appraisal (Opra) - Compliance assessment findings may affect your Opra score and/or your charges. This score influences the resource we use to assess permit compliance.

Section 6 – General information

Data protection notice

The information on this form will be processed by the Natural Resources Wales (NRW) to fulfil its regulatory and monitoring functions and to maintain the relevant public register(s). The NRW may also use and/or disclose it in connection with:

- Offering/providing you with its literature/services relating to environmental matters
- Consulting with the public, public bodies and other organisations (eg. Health and Safety Executive, local authorities) on environmental issues
- Carrying out statistical analysis, research and development on environmental issues
- Providing public register information to enquirers
- Investigating possible breaches of environmental law
- Assessing customer service satisfaction and improving its service
- Freedom of Information Act/Environmental Regulations request

The NRW may pass it on to its agents/representatives to do these things on its behalf. You should ensure that any persons named on this form are informed of the contents of this data protection notice.

Disclosure of information

The NRW will provide a copy of this report to the public register(s). However, if you consider that any information contained in this report should not be released to the public register(s) on the grounds of commercial confidentiality, you must write to your local area office within fifteen working days of receipt of this form indicating which information it concerns and why it should not be released, giving your reasons in full.

Customer charter

What can I do if I disagree with this compliance assessment report?

If you are unable to resolve the issue with your site officer, you should firstly discuss the matter with officer's line managers using the informal appeals procedure. If you wish to raise your dispute further through our official Complaints and Commendations procedure, phone our general enquiry number 0300 065 3000 (Mon to Fri 08.00 – 18.00) and ask for the Customer Contact team or send an email to enquiries@naturalresourceswales.gov.uk. If you are still dissatisfied you can make a complaint to the Public Services Ombudsman for Wales. For advice on how to complain to the Ombudsman phone their helpline on 0845 607 0987.

Welsh Language

If you would like this form in Welsh please contact your Regulatory Officer.