

Compliance Assessment Report

Report ID:
CAR_NRW0033545

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

Site	Waen AD Plant EPR/DP3735NP	Permit Ref	DP3735NP		
Operator/Permit holder	Biogen Waen Ltd				
Regime	Installations				
Date of assessment	14/06/2018	Time in	13:30	Out	16:15
Assessment type	Site Inspection				
Parts of the permit assessed	Various				
Lead officer's name	Ross, Stuart				
Accompanied by					
Recipient's name/position	David Herbert/ Plant Manager	Date issued	27/06/2018		

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	
B1 - Infrastructure - Engineering for prevention and control of emissions	X	
E3 - Emissions - Surface water	A	
G3 - Monitoring and Records, Maintenance and Reporting - Maintenance records	X	

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

This Compliance Assessment Report follows a routine site inspection 14/06/18.

1. Digestate

Biogen continue to hold PAS 110 accreditation for the site digestate and during the inspection digestate was being dispatched to local farm land. Biogen take steps to minimise the odour impact of spreading by considering the wind direction during spreading and completing odour monitoring.

An odour complaint was received for the installation which Biogen report is linked to the mixing of digestate within the storage tank to ensure it is homogenous prior to tankering off site. The tank is covered with clay balls to reduce odour emissions and the mixing is carried out infrequently and NRW does not consider that any further action is required at this time.

Separator waste is removed from the separator building and bulked up in a trailer located on the yard prior to dispatch approximately once every two weeks, loading takes approximately 20 minutes and occurs around 2 - 3 times a week. No odour complaints have been received for this activity and no significant odour was noticed from the trailer during the inspection. The trailer is positioned on the concrete yard and a small amount of liquid (leachate) drips from the rear of the trailer and into a foul drain that runs into the site's internal system. In the worst case scenario, any spills onto other yard areas would be collected within the surface water drainage system that must be tested prior to discharge - adequate safeguards in place to protect surface water.

2. Hydrogen Sulphide Control

It was reported the ferric chloride dosing has been suspended due to a fault with the buffer tank recirculation pump which is required to mix the ferric chloride with raw waste. The pump was off site for repair and due to be reinstated w/c 18/06/18. It was also reported that plans are being developed to move the ferric chloride dosing point to the raw waste line (pre buffer tank) to reduce the corrosive effects on plant and to improve system reliability.

At the time of writing this report a Schedule 6 (Part A) notification has been received relating to a sulphur dioxide emission limit exceedance for the CHP that may relate to ineffective ferric chloride dosing and the issues noted above. Any non compliance issues will be addressed in a separate report covering a review of the monitoring return and Schedule 5 (Part B) notification when received.

ACTION - In the interim and prior to the installation of the proposed dosing point, Biogen shall ensure that hydrogen sulphide concentrations within raw biogas are controlled to a level that will ensure the CHP sulphur dioxide emission limit is not exceeded. An emissions retest shall be organised to demonstrate emissions have been brought back into compliance.

Recommendation - determine an operational control point for hydrogen sulphide concentrations in raw biogas by reviewing the relationship (and likely correlation) between hydrogen sulphide in biogas and corresponding sulphur dioxide CHP emission,

3. Odour Abatement - Preventative Maintenance

Preventative maintenance is scheduled electronically via 'Activ'. A number of tasks including those relating to the maintenance of the carbon filters serving the waste reception and separator rooms are automatically generated by the system but were not subsequently closed down as required. In these instances the system contains little or no information as to the outcome of the task or to verify if it was completed satisfactorily.

This failing has been attributed to poor practices of a previous employee and all outstanding tasks associated with

this period have had to be closed with little or no information added to the system.

The plant manager reports that poor practices have been addressed and all current tasks are being opened and closed down as required.

With respect to the carbon filters, Activ requires ammonia, hydrogen sulphide and air flow testing on a monthly basis (last completed 02/06/18) and adequate records were present on the system - no issues noted.

The carbon filters also require a test to ensure it is not exhausted and replaced in a timely manner. This was due to be completed early 2018 but due to the issues noted above it is uncertain if this was completed. The site manager reported that a test will be scheduled in for July 2018 regardless and paper records will be reviewed to establish if the previous test was completed.

ACTION - Ensure all maintenance tasks are adequately recorded to demonstrate they have been completed to a satisfactory standard.

ACTION - Confirm whether the carbon exhaustion test was completed early 2018 as programmed. Please forward this information to NRW by 27/07/18.

No odours were noted on or off site that could be attributed to inadequate maintenance of the carbon filters - they appear to be functioning normally.

ACTION - During an inspection of the gas holder it was noted that air is leaking from a flange plate on the outer membrane where a hose passes through. A small emission of air with a biogas type odour was detectable in the immediate vicinity and action shall be taken to prevent and minimise odour emissions from this source. A summary of the action you have taken shall be submitted to NRW by 27/07/18.

ACTION - A carbon filter has been installed to treat potentially odorous air released from the air space between the inner and outer gas holder membranes. No flow was detected from the carbon filter and it appears that there may be a blockage in the filter or connecting pipework. Take steps to ensure the filter is operational and has an associated planned preventative maintenance task in place. A summary of the action you have taken shall be submitted to NRW by 27/07/18.

4. Flare Modifications

It was verified that pressure relief valves have been fitted to the flame arrestor with associated telemetry. Grass/vegetation around the flare has been 'strimmed' back but has regrown. Care should be taken to ensure vegetation does not encroach on the flare compound to minimise any fire risk.

5. Surface Water Discharge Monitoring

The surface water collection tank is subject to ammonia testing prior to discharge and only pumped if it meets the permit limit.. Records are maintained for date of discharge and test results.

Recommendation - to reduce the risk of operator error, label the pumps/control valves in the bund sump to ensure foul water is not mistakenly discharged to the site's surface water system. If the foul pump is normally used (e.g. default) then consider locking off the surface water pump and controlling keys accordingly.

EPR Compliance Assessment Report

**Report ID:
CAR_NRW0033545**

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

Site	Waen AD Plant EPR/DP3735NP	Permit Ref	DP3735NP
Operator/Permit holder	Biogen Waen Ltd	Date	14/06/2018

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			
G3	X	Refer Details Section	27/07/2018
B1	X	Refer Details Section	27/07/2018

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.