

Compliance Assessment Report CAR_NRW0040069

Permit being assessed: UB3897TG.

For: Bpi Recycled Products, held by British Polythene Limited

At: Rhymney, Tredegar, NP22 5PY.

Type of assessment carried out: Site Inspection, Reason: Other.

On 21/06/2022 between 13:00 and 13:45.

Parts of permit assessed: A, B, C, F

NRW Lead Officer: Alex Bowder, accompanied by Jak Rose.

Report sent to: Steven Harris, Sean Finnemore, Ben Walstow, Business Improvement Manager, Environmental Manager, Operations Manager on 27/06/2022.

1. Summary of our findings (full details in section 4)

Part of permitted activity assessed (criteria)	Assessment result	Permit condition
A1 - Specified by permit	Assessed (A)	
B3 - Infrastructure - Site drainage engineering (clean and foul)	Assessed (A)	
C4 - General Management - Storage, handling labelling and Segregation	Assessed (A)	
F1 - Amenity - Odour	Assessed (A)	
F2 - Amenity - Noise	Assessed (A)	

Result types are explained in more detail in the 'Important Information' section below.

Total number of non-compliances recorded	Total non-compliance score
0	0

How we use the non-compliance score to calculate your annual fee is explained in the 'Important Information' section below.

2. What action is required?

No action required.

3. What will happen next?

Any non-compliance we have identified and recorded on this form is an offence. It can result in criminal prosecution and/or suspension or revocation of your permit.

At this time, we do not intend to take any further action.

This statement does not stop us from taking additional enforcement action if further relevant information comes to light or offences continue.

4. Details of our assessment

*This compliance report details the site inspection conducted by Natural Resources Wales (NRW) Officers on 21 June 2022 at BPI Recycled Products, Block 3, Maerdy Industrial Estate North, Rhymney, Tredegar, NP22 5PY - Permit number **EPR-UB3897TG**.*

Senior Regulation Officer Alex BOWDER and Officer Jak ROSE attended BPI Recycled Products at 13:00 to conduct a spot inspection of the permit following the report of an amenity impact alleged to have emanated from the site.

Upon arrival to the site reception, there was no staff member present to liaise with officers for several minutes. Steven HARRIS (Business Improvement Manager) and Sean FINNEMORE (Environmental Manager) later accompanied Officers around the permitted area and explained the operational activities taking place. Ben WALSTOW (Operations Manager) was also present within the premises. Weather conditions were warm with clear skies at the time of inspection.

Site Regulator Officer Greg GARDNER is on annual leave and will resume regulatory responsibilities upon return.

Noise Emissions

In June 2022, NRW were contacted by Caerphilly County Borough Council Environmental Health with regard to a reported increase in noise being experienced by local residents over the past few weeks. Officers conducted this visit following the report to substantiate whether there had been any operational changes or machinery failures that could've caused a change in work patterns or activities.

Officers questioned any changes in operations over the past few weeks; nothing excessive or noteworthy was detailed. During the warmer months, air flow is required to provide workers with sufficient clean and cool air which is done through opening the shutter doors at opposing ends of the building(s). It was asked when the doors are opened and how this is guaranteed - this was said to be done between 07:00 and 19:00 which is controlled by the shift manager.

It was mentioned that the operator has been looking into further noise mitigation methods to improve the efficiency of the roof fans and internal air circulation, which would negate the need to keep the shutter doors open during the day. Treatment activities are contained within the building structures, which will naturally reduce noise propagation leaving the permit boundary.



Image 1 - showing the plastics recycling factory line within one of the buildings

General Observations

No non-compliances were noted with waste storage, treatment activities, or infrastructure during the site inspection. There were clear walkways, adequately separated waste piles, and appropriate PPE being worn by staff within the units at all times. Mesh fencing is erected around the site boundary to assist with debris containment.

The outside storage area holds mainly wrapped plastic materials awaiting transfer inside for treatment within the building; this area was not inspected thoroughly on the visit. Officers asked Mr. S HARRIS what the storage timescales are for keeping waste outside, and how these are managed. As a reminder, established fire breaks and separation distances should be present at all times between stockpiled materials to ensure that fire risk is reduced - nothing negligent was observed.



Image 2 - showing various waste plastic materials stored outside on impermeable surface.

Operator name listed on permit EPR-UB3897TG

The point was raised surrounding the various company names that are attributed to the site i.e. Visqueen Building Products/BPI Products/Berry. It was stated that the business was under the umbrella company Berry, but still retains the BPI title when trading, on its transfer documents and signage.

Please note: an admin permit variation should be actioned to ensure that the correct legal entity is the primary holder (if this is not the case).

Future Regulation Checks

The operator stated that they had submitted comprehensive list of documents to NRW following the compliance exercise requesting site details earlier in the year. An audit of the permit will be conducted later in the year to look at Fire Prevention and Mitigation Plan (FPMP), environmental management systems and outside waste storage activities.

Waste returns submissions were not analysed for this inspection.

If you have any issues with this report, please contact Senior Regulation Officer Alex BOWDER at Alex.Bowder@cyfoethnaturiolcymru.gov.uk

Thank you.

In this document 'Natural Resources Wales' means the Natural Resource Body for Wales established by Article 3 of the Natural Resources Body for Wales (Establishment) Order 2012

If you have any queries about this report, or to discuss completion of any actions, please contact the NRW Officer named above.

Important information

Legal status of this report

Your permit is issued to you under the Environmental Permitting Regulations. You have a responsibility to comply with the conditions of your permit and prevent pollution/harm of the environment. You must also ensure that you comply with any other relevant legislation that may apply to your site's operations.

This report explains the findings of our assessment and any action you are required to take. We categorise non-compliance using our guidance for assessing non-compliance at regulated sites.

When we find potential non-compliance/s we will normally give you advice on how to maintain compliance.

To correct non-compliance, we may:

- require you to take specific actions
- issue a notice
- review the conditions of your permit.

Any advice and guidance we give will be without prejudice to any other enforcement response that we consider may be required.

Assessment results and non-compliance categories (used in section 1):

Assessment result	Description
Assessed (A)	Assessed or assessed in part, no evidence of non-compliance found
Action only (X)	Action only relating to the activity assessment
Ongoing (O)	Ongoing non-compliance, not scored

Non-compliance category	Description	Score
C1 Major	Potential to have a major, serious, persistent and/or extensive impact or effect on the environment, people and/or property	60
C2 Significant	Potential to have a significant impact or effect on the environment, people and/or property	31
C3 Minor	Potential to have a minor or minimal impact or effect on the environment, people and/or property	4
C4 No environmental impact	Non-compliance at a regulated site that cannot foreseeably have any impact on the environment, people and/or property	0.1

How we use assessment scores

The number and severity of non-compliances recorded in a year will affect your annual subsistence fee the following year. A non-compliance factor is added to your site's Operator

Performance Risk Appraisal (OPRA) score when we calculate your fee to reflect the additional resource we use to assess permit compliance.

What are suspended scores?

In line with our guidance, we may suspend scores for up to six months to allow time for remedial action to be taken. Suspended scores will be re-instated if the action is not completed.

Full list of Industry and Waste action criteria (used in section 1 and 2):**A: Permitted activities**

- A1 Specified by permit

B: Infrastructure

- B1 Infrastructure – Engineering for prevention and control of emissions
- B2 Infrastructure – Closure and decommissioning
- B3 Infrastructure – Site drainage engineering (clean and foul)
- B4 Infrastructure – Containment of stored materials
- B5 Infrastructure – Plant and equipment

C: General management

- C1 General management – Staff competency/training
- C2 General management – Management system and operating procedures
- C3 General management – Materials acceptance
- C4 General management – Storage, handling, labelling and segregation

D: Incident management

- D1 Incident management – Site security
- D2 Incident management – Accidents, emergency and incident planning

E: Emissions

- E1 Emissions – Air
- E2 Emissions – Land and groundwater
- E3 Emissions – Surface water
- E4 Emissions – Sewer
- E5 Emissions – Waste

F: Amenity

- F1 Amenity – Odour
- F2 Amenity – Noise
- F3 Amenity – Dust/fibres/particulates and litter
- F4 Amenity – Pests/birds and scavengers
- F5 Amenity – Deposits on road

G: Monitoring and records, maintenance and reporting

- G1 Monitoring and records, maintenance and reporting – Monitoring of emissions and environment
- G2 Monitoring and records, maintenance and reporting – Records of activity, site diary/journal/events
- G3 Monitoring and records, maintenance and reporting – Maintenance records
- G4 Monitoring and records, maintenance and reporting – Reporting and notification to Natural Resources Wales

H: Resources efficiency

- H1 Resource efficiency – Efficient use of raw materials
- H2 Resource efficiency – Energy efficiency

Enforcement response

Any permit condition non-compliance is an offence and we may take legal action against you. Action we take can include prosecution, serving a notice on you and/or suspension or revocation of your permit. See our Enforcement and Sanctions Guidance for further information.

Data protection notice

You should make sure that anyone named in this report knows that the information it contains will be processed by Natural Resources Wales to fulfil its regulatory and monitoring functions and to maintain the relevant public register(s).

We may also use and/or disclose the report in connection with:

- offering or providing you with our literature or services relating to environmental matters
- consulting with the public, public bodies and other organisations (e.g. 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 our service
- Freedom of Information Act or Environmental Information Regulations requests.

We may also pass it on to our agents or representatives to do these things on our behalf.

Disclosure of information – this report will be available to view on-line

If you think this report contains commercially confidential information that should not be placed on our public register, you must contact your local Natural Resources Wales office within **fifteen working days** of receiving this report, using the contact details in the accompanying email or letter. You must give a full explanation of why it should not be added to our public register, including specifying which information is commercially confidential. We will assess your request and respond to you within 20 working days to let you know if we agree to your request.

What do I do if I disagree with the report or have a complaint?

If you disagree with this compliance assessment report, you should contact the lead officer without delay to discuss your concerns.

If you are unable to resolve the issue with the lead officer or their line manager you should contact our Customer Contact team on 0300 065 3000 (Monday to Friday 08:00 – 18:00), or email enquiries@naturalresourceswales.gov.uk for details of how to raise your dispute further through our Complaints and Commendations procedure.

If you are dissatisfied with our response, you can contact the Public Services Ombudsman for Wales by phone on 0300 7900203 or by email at ask@ombudsman.wales

Welsh Language Standards

We are committed to establishing Natural Resources Wales as a naturally bilingual organisation. We will provide compliance reports in your preferred language.