

Compliance Assessment Report CAR_NRW0040347

Permit being assessed: CG0338101

For: NWF FUEL DEPOT FFORD TALAGOCH MELI, held by NWF FUELS LTD
At: NWF FUEL DEPOT FFORD TALAGOCH M, FFORD TALAGOCH MELIDEN,
MELIDEN, MELIDEN, MELIDEN.

Type of assessment carried out: Site Inspection, Reason: Incident Response (Incident number: 2206029).

On 15/08/2022, between 12:20 and 13:30.

Parts of permit assessed: all

NRW Lead Officer: Tom Lewis.

Report sent to: M Holmes, Site Manager, on 06/09/2022.

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

Part of permitted activity assessed (criteria)	Assessment result	Permit condition
WQ-C1 - Emissions and monitoring - Emissions to water	C2 Significant	1(a)
WQ-A1 - Management - General management	C2 Significant	9 (b)

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

2. What action is required?

Criteria	Action needed	Complete by
WQ-C1	Review procedures for bund discharges and ensure staff are appropriately trained. Consider automated safeguard measures to ensure discharge meets permit conditions for quality e.g. alarm	06/09/2022
WQ-A1	Ensure any discharge from sample point is non-polluting and does not adversely impact on the receiving environment.	06/09/2022

Action criteria codes are listed in the 'Important information' section below.

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.

You are non-compliant with your permit.

We are currently considering taking enforcement action against you for the non-compliance recorded above. We will contact you in due course.

4. Details of our assessment

Site visited following a discharge of emulsified fuel into a pond served by Meliden Mine Drain.

Bunded area accessed with a member of staff and discharge of bund water observed to be taking place through the penstock at the designated sample point. Bund water appeared to contain a fuel like substance but distance from top of fuel tank to discharge point prevented a sample being obtained. Penstock closed by member of staff shortly after and discharge ceased.

The absorbent materials either side of the discharge chamber appeared saturated:



Officer returned to site with sampling rope and container and accompanied by the Site Manager, a sample representing the earlier discharge was taken from the discharge chamber. This sample contained a significant amount of the fuel like substance and was later identified as diesel oil from analysis. This is a breach of discharge permit conditions 1 (a)

1. (a) The Discharge shall not contain any poisonous, noxious or polluting matter or solid waste matter.

and condition 9 (b)

- (b) the Discharge from having any other adverse environmental impact.

Absorbents deployed from on-site stock and later in the day by contractors instructed by NWF, in order to limit the environmental impact.

The permit holder should not allow another discharge until the contaminated bund water has been removed.

The permit holder should investigate the source of the fuel in the bunded area and instigate measures to minimise the risk of a recurrence. Procedures should be reviewed and updated as required to ensure the bund penstock valve is only opened when the bund water is within permit compliance. Further measures should be considered to minimise the risk of further breaches of permit, and this should include automated devices such as alarms.

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

If your assessment result in Section 1 is suspended, what does this mean?

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

Full list of water quality action criteria (used in section 1 and 2):**WQ A: Management**

- WQ-A1 General management

WQ B: Operations

- WQ-B1 Permitted activities
- WQ-B2 The site
- WQ-B3 Operating techniques
- WQ-B4 Improvement programme
- WQ-B5 Pre-operational conditions

WQ C: Emissions and monitoring

- WQ-C1 Emissions to water
- WQ-C2 Emissions to land
- WQ-C3 Emissions of substances not controlled by emission limits
- WQ-C4 Installation of monitoring boreholes

WQ D: Information

- WQ-D1 Records
- WQ-D2 Reporting
- WQ-D3 Notifications

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.