

Compliance Assessment Report CAR_NRW0040957

Permit being assessed: DP3137EG.
For: Margam Green Energy Plant, held by Margam Green Energy Ltd
At: Land off Longlands Lane, Margam, Port Talbot, Neath Port Talbot, SA13 2NR.

Type of assessment carried out: Report/Data Review, Reason: Routine.
On 31/12/2022.

Parts of permit assessed: Please see details

NRW Lead Officer: Michael Launder.

Report sent to: Paul Fitzsimmons, General Manager on 15/02/2023.

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

Part of permitted activity assessed (criteria)	Assessment result	Permit condition
G1 - Monitoring and Records, Maintenance and Reporting - Monitoring of emissions and environment	Assessed (A)	
G4 - Monitoring and Records, Maintenance and Reporting - Reporting and notification to Natural Resources Wales	Assessed (A)	
E1 - Emissions - Air	C3 Minor	3.1.2 The limits given in Schedule 3 shall not be exceeded.
E1 - Emissions - Air	C3 Minor	3.1.2 The limits given in Schedule 3 shall not be exceeded. (TOC)

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

Total number of non-compliances recorded	Total non-compliance score
2	8

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?

Criteria	Action needed	Complete by
E1	Operator to conduct root cause investigation and provide summary to NRW.	Already completed
E1	N/A	Already completed

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.

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

Introduction

This Compliance Assessment Report (CAR) is a partial review of Margam Green Energy Ltd. compliance submissions for 2022.

Waste Returns as required by condition 4.2.5

- The Q1 (January to March 2022) submission included all the results for quarterly parameters required over this period.
- The Q2 (April to June 2022) submission included all the results for quarterly parameters required over this period.
- The Q3 (July to September 2022) submission included all the results for quarterly parameters required over this period.
- The Q4 (October to December 2022) submission included all the results for quarterly parameters required over this period.

Point Source Emissions to Air Parameters (Air 1 Form) as required by condition 4.2.3 (a)

- The Q1 and Q2 (January to March 2022 and April to June 2022) submissions have been covered by a previous Compliance Assessment Reports, including relevant Schedule 5 submissions up to the end of this period.
- The Q3 (July to September 2022) submission included results for all quarterly parameters required over this period. Assessment of the Schedule 5 submissions for this period is covered below.
- The Q4 (October to December 2022) submission included results for all quarterly parameters required over this period.

Point Source Emissions to Air Parameters (Air 2 Form Extractive) as required by condition 4.2.3 (a)

The six monthly (July 2022 to December 2022) submission included results for all parameters required over this period.

Residue Quality as required by condition 4.2.2 (c)

- The Q1 (January to March 2022) submission included all the results for quarterly parameters required over this period.
- The Q2 (April to June 2022) submission included all the results for quarterly parameters required over this period.

- The Q3 (July to September 2022) submission included all the results for quarterly parameters required over this period.
- The Q4 (October to December 2022) submission included all the results for quarterly parameters required over this period.

Annual Production/Treatment as required by condition 4.2.2 (b)

The annual production/treatment data specified in Table S4.2 was also received and includes reporting parameters required by the permit.

Schedule 5 Submissions

Background on Permit Requirements

Condition 3.5.1 of the Operators permit states:

The Operator shall, unless otherwise agreed in writing by Natural Resources Wales, undertake the monitoring specified in the following tables in Schedule 3 to this permit:

- a. *Point source emissions specified in tables S3.1, S3.2 and S3.3.*

Table S3.1 of Schedule 3(a) to the environmental permit is partially reproduced below, showing parameters relevant to this CAR.

Table S3.1 Point source emissions to air – emission limits and monitoring requirements

Emission point ref. & location	Parameter	Source	Limit (including unit)	Reference period	Monitoring frequency	Monitoring standard or method
A1 (65m Stack – shown on site plan in Schedule 7)	CO	Cleaned exhaust gases from combustion furnace	150 mg/m ³	½-hr average	Continuous measurement	BS EN 14181
	Total Organic Carbon (TOC)		30 mg/m ³	½-hr average	Continuous measurement	BS EN 14181

Schedule 3(a) – Emissions and monitoring above details Emission Limit Values (ELVs) monitored via Continuous measurement (CEMS). To maintain compliance with the Operators environmental permit (DP3137EG) the ELVs specified above shall not be exceeded as stated in condition 3.1.2 - *the limits given in Schedule 3 shall not be exceeded.*

In accordance with the Operators environmental permit, Natural Resources Wales (NRW) must be notified of all permit breaches as per the following condition/s:

4.3.1 The Operator shall,

- a. *In the event of a breach of any permit condition the operator must immediately –*

- i. *Inform Natural Resources Wales, and*
- ii. *Take the measures necessary to ensure that compliance is restored within the shortest possible time;*

4.3.2 Any information provided under condition 4.3.1(a)(i), or 4.3.1 (b)(i) where the information relates to the breach of a limit specified in the permit, shall be confirmed by sending the information listed in schedule 5 to this permit within the time period specified in that schedule.

Schedule 5 Submissions

The Operator submitted 9 Schedule 5 Notifications during Q3 2022, relating to 12 exceedances of the limits presented above.

Date	Time	Parameter	Measured Value
09/08/2022	18:59 - 19:29	CO	196.1 mg/m ³
09/08/2022	18:59 - 19:29	TOC	110.8 mg/m ³
14/08/2022	17:29 - 17:59	CO	373.8 mg/m ³
14/08/2022	17:29 - 17:59	TOC	38.3 mg/m ³
20/08/2022	12:59 - 13:29	CO	236.5 mg/m ³
24/08/2022	14:59 - 15:29	CO	156.5 mg/m ³
24/08/2022	17:59 - 18:29	CO	186 mg/m ³
25/08/2022	15:59 - 16:29	CO	169.1 mg/m ³
02/09/2022	01:29 - 01:59	CO	188.8 mg/m ³
11/09/2022	10:59 - 11:29	CO	168.5 mg/m ³
11/09/2022	14:59 - 15:29	CO	166.3 mg/m ³
29/09/2022	10:59 - 11:29	CO	308.8 mg/m ³

No Schedule 5 notifications were submitted for Q4 2022.

The Operator has provided a root cause analysis for each reported breach:

9th August 2022: Plant operating conditions out of specification, parameters adjusted to return emissions to within permitted limits.

14th August 2022: Turbine tripped out on plant, restart restored emissions to within permitted limits.

20th August 2022: Mechanical issue with combustion grate, emissions restored to within permitted limits on resolution.

24th August 2022 to 29th September 2022: During a survey of the plant, a number of air ingress points were identified. These were causing excess air to be drawn in under operating negative pressure, leading to unstable CO levels. This was remedied through addition of sealing plates where required. Air flows in the boiler and CO levels have stabilised and no further exceedances have been reported.

The CO breaches have been consolidated for the quarter (Q3). This has been assigned a non-compliance category of C3 under sub-criterion E1 Emissions - Air.

The TOC breaches have been consolidated for the quarter (Q3). This has been assigned a non-compliance category of C3 under sub-criterion E1 Emissions - Air.

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.