

Compliance Assessment Report CAR_NRW0041574

Permit being assessed: QP3098FL.

For: Withyhedge Material Recycling Facility, held by Resources Management U K Ltd
At: Withyhedge MRF, Bowling Farm, Rudbaxton, Haverfordwest, Pembrokeshire, SA62 4DB.

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

On 03/03/2023 between 10:30 and 11:15.

Parts of permit assessed: General Site inspection

NRW Lead Officer: Sally Wakeford.

Report sent to: Howard Evans, John Edwards, Manager on site, Compliance Manager on 17/03/2023.

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)	
C1 - General Management - Staff competency/training	Action only (X)	
C2 - General Management - Management system and operating procedures	Action only (X)	
F3 - Amenity - Dust/fibres/particulates and litter	Assessed (A)	
F5 - Amenity - Deposits on road	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?

Criteria	Action needed	Complete by
C1	Provide WAMITAB certificates for Technically Competent Manager	30/04/2023
C2	Provide Copies of Environment Management System and Fire Prevention and Mitigation Plan	30/04/2023

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

On 03 March 2023, a site inspection was undertaken at Withyhedge MRF, EPR/QP3098FL by Sally Wakeford, accompanied on site by Howard Evans (Manager on site) and John Edwards (Compliance Manager).

This is the first inspection following the sale of the company to the Neal's Group.

The site is currently being used as a staging area for waste being deposited prior to being taken to the landfill, as a transfer station only. The Materials Recycling Facility operation is currently not being undertaken.

MRF Activity

At present the site is still a registered MRF, therefore there would be an additional subsistence fee being paid on top of the normal permit subsistence fees. As this activity is not presently being undertaken, you can de-notify the site using the following link:

<https://naturalresources.wales/guidance-and-advice/environmental-topics/waste-management/materials-facilities-how-to-assess-notify-sample-and-report/?lang=en>

Use the green button "Tell us about your facility" to withdraw your notification.

There was mention of the intention to potentially use this facility in future, therefore if you change your operations to undertake the sorting of mixed recyclates over 1000 tonnes per annum, you will be required to renotify using the same link as above, and undertake the sampling requirements.

Wamitab

Please provide a copy of the original qualification, and all certificates of continuing competency for your Technically Competent Manager.

This has been marked against sub-criterion C1 – Staff Competency as Action Only. **Please provide this information by 30 April 2023.**

Environment Management System & Fire Prevention and Mitigation Plan

Please provide a copy of your current Environment Management System and Fire Prevention and Mitigation Plan. These documents must be written in accordance to the current relevant guidance. These documents should reflect the activities occurring on site at present and reflect the new Management structure at the facility.

This has been marked as Action Only against the sub-criterion C2 – Management Systems and Operating Procedures as Action Only. **Please provide this information by 30 April 2023** unless otherwise agreed in writing.

Litter

Where the site is located, and the activities occurring outside the building, there is a risk of litter escaping the site. The fence line is planned to be replaced, to enable more litter to be captured that may escape the site, and you employ 2 full time litter pickers to ensure no escape of litter. One employee was present and working on site on the arrival of the officer, and on exit was ensuring no escape of litter down the roadway.

Maintenance

The pad where vehicles were depositing waste outside the building appeared in good condition. The bays holding the waste were well maintained and providing adequate area for the deposit of waste.

Please ensure that the wastes do not overtop the bay walls, and any litter is picked which might escape over the top. There was evidence of waste being on top of the walls, making this a possibility.

Future Plans

Following the walk around site, we met with David Neal and other representatives of the company. Future potential plans for the site were discussed. Details were requested for those in the NRW management structure, especially regarding the agricultural sector. These will be provided by email following this report.

Photographs of site inspection



Thank you for taking the time to accompany me around the site.

END

Any compliance criteria not highlighted in the above summary should be considered as not assessed.

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

You should note that the Natural Resources Body for Wales has been formed by bringing together the Countryside Council for Wales, Forestry Commission Wales and Environment Agency Wales. The Natural Resources Body for Wales has been empowered to exercise Welsh devolved functions since 1st April 2013 and has, generally, taken over the responsibilities of the Countryside Council for Wales, the Forestry Commissioners and the Environment Agency for Wales.

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.