

Compliance Assessment Report CAR_NRW0041803

Permit being assessed: BW9999IG.

For: Chirk Particleboard Factory, held by Kronospan Ltd

At: Chirk Particleboard Holyhead Road , Chirk, Wrexham, Clwyd, LL14 5NT.

Type of assessment carried out: Report/Data Review, Reason: Routine.

On 10/05/2023.

Parts of permit assessed: Monitoring Q4 and Annual 2022 and Q1 2023

NRW Lead Officer: Ian Oakes.

Report sent to: Chris Emery, Director on 23/05/2023.

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

Part of permitted activity assessed (criteria)	Assessment result	Permit condition
E1 - Emissions - Air	Assessed (A)	
E3 - Emissions - Surface water	Assessed (A)	
E5 - Emissions - Waste	C3 Minor	3.1.2
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)	

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

Total number of non-compliances recorded	Total non-compliance score
1	4

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
E5	Test a minimum of three samples over Q2 of K8 bottom ash for LOI and confirm compliance.	31/07/2023

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.

You are non-compliant with your permit.

At this time, we are issuing you with a warning for the non-compliance recorded above. Warnings may influence future enforcement response for continued or further non-compliance.

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

Monitoring Q4 and Annual Reports 2022 and Q1 2023

1. Annual monitoring and reporting requirements reference permit BW9999IG consolidation V008

For all emission points and parameters required by condition 3 Emissions and monitoring 3.1 Emissions to water, air or land 3.1.1 - 3.1.4 (and schedule 3), condition 3.6 Monitoring 3.6.1 and 3.6.5 (and schedule 3) and 4.2 Reporting 4.2.1 - 4.2.6 (and schedule 4).

The emissions results were within the the emission limit values specified in the permit with the exception of one exceedance in Loss of Ignition for K8 bottom ash in Q1 2023 below.

2. Non-compliances - Condition 3.1.2 The limits given in schedule 3 shall not be exceeded.

Q1 2023 Minor non-compliance for Loss on Ignition (LOI) on K8 bottom ash (sample taken 28/03/23) of 5.9% versus 5.0% Table S3.9 (K7 and K8 Biomass boiler residue quality) attracting a non-compliance score of CCS 3.

Kronospan Part A Notification: *The LOI of the quarterly bottom ash residue sample taken for Q1 from the K8 biomass boiler has exceeded the LOI limit of 5%. We have investigated the potential cause of this and are unable to determine why the sample result was high. The factors that would affect LOI with the bottom ash have remained consistent, for example the furnace temperature. The only operating condition that we have controlled differently in recent months is the speed of the ID fan (due to external noise issues) however do not believe that reducing the fan speed would result in higher LOI. The other potential cause identified during investigation was that the sample was contaminated somehow.*

Measures taken, or intended to be taken, to prevent a recurrence of the incident: *We intend to take monthly samples going forward until we are satisfied that this result was an anomaly.*

3. The following transposition errors from the ATESTA MCERTS monitoring reports identified in the NRW Operator Monitoring Assessment to Air (31 March 2023, separate CAR) in Q4 2022 monitoring reports have been corrected and Q4 2022 report resubmitted for the Public Register:

- Emission Point A31, the TVOC measurement uncertainty has not been reported – the measurement result has been used to populate the box, it should be 1.8 not 32.8.
- Emission Point A32, the formaldehyde result in the ATESTA report is 2.2 mg/m³, the

report states 6.3mg/m³.

These errors have not effected compliance.

4. K7 monitoring / reporting to resume and subject to NRW IC37 (within 12 months of V008 issue)

The K7 emission limit values in Table S3.3 do not come into effect until 1st January 2024.

The Operator shall investigate the likely cause of high CO releases from K7 Biomass Boiler and submit a written report identifying the key causes and outlining proposals to reduce the CO release from K7 Biomass Plant, with associated timescales for implementation in order to meet emission limit values in Table S3.3 in accordance with Local Authority Process Guidance Note 1/03 (12) "Statutory Guidance for Boilers and Furnaces 20 – 50MW thermal input".

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.