

Compliance Assessment Report CAR_NRW0041934

Permit being assessed: BX9846ID.

For: Waunarlwydd EPR/BX9846ID, held by Timet UK Ltd

At: Timet UK Ltd Timet Waunarlwydd , Waunarlwydd, SWANSEA, West Glamorgan, SA5 4SF.

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

On 18/05/2023 between 10:00 and 15:00.

Parts of permit assessed: Please see details

NRW Lead Officer: Michael Launder, accompanied by Douglas Cowie.

Report sent to: Scott Davies, HSE & Facilities Leader on 13/06/2023.

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

Part of permitted activity assessed (criteria)	Assessment result	Permit condition
C3 - General Management - Materials acceptance	Action only (X)	
B1 - Infrastructure - Engineering for prevention and control of emissions	Assessed (A)	
B3 - Infrastructure - Site drainage engineering (clean and foul)	Assessed (A)	
E1 - Emissions - Air	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
C3	Operator to submit a report outlining procedures and infrastructure for pollution prevention during acid unloading and, if found to be required by a risk based assessment, proposals and timescales for any remedial actions.	04/09/2023

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

Attendees

- Scott Davies - HSE & Facilities Leader, Timet
- Michael Launder - Senior Industry Regulation Officer, Natural Resources Wales
- Douglas Cowie - Lead Specialist Industry Regulation, Natural Resources Wales

Introduction

This Compliance Assessment Report was completed following a site visit by Michael Launder and Douglas Cowie on 18 May 2023. The aim of the visit was site and process familiarisation for the new lead regulatory officer for the site.

Site Operations

The Operator provided a tour of the site and overview of the current operations and production processes:

- Raw materials storage area
- Electric reheat furnaces
- Rod rolling & Sheet rolling
- Intermediate product descaling
- Pickling lines
- Bulk acid unloading
- Swarf storage
- Waste oil and coolant storage

During the site walkover, process management and reporting stations used for recording Health, Safety and Environmental incidents were shown, and the site central Communication Hub, where these daily management activities are tracked, along with longer term progress of CAPEX for projects including environmental improvements.



Action tracking in process areas (left) and central Communication Hub (right)

Waste storage areas were also visited, notably for storing titanium fines and filter papers, waste cutting oils and coolants, and filter cake from Effluent Treatment Plant. At the time of the visit, housekeeping was good throughout.

The construction of a covered swarf storage area was ongoing and a covered storage area for waste oils and coolants had recently been completed. These new storage arrangements address several issues raised during a previous site audit (CAR_NRW0034579).



Covered swarf storage area under construction

A small boiler near to the surface treatment vats was visited, and the rated thermal input was checked to see if it was in scope of the Medium Combustion Plant Directive (MCPD). It appeared to be rated < 1MWth and outside the MCP scope, however this should be added to the permit as a Directly Associated Activity during the next permit variation or review.

The external bulk delivery area for acids used in surface treatment was inspected. It was unclear what attenuation and containment infrastructure is in place to minimise the extent of spills during unloading operations. Unlike containment of bulk storage of oils, acids and other potentially contaminating liquids, there are few proscriptive requirements for unloading areas but the Operator should consider whether risk is minimised and appropriate contingency measures are in place by through review of guidance that includes best practice, including:

- Natural Resources Wales *How to comply with your environmental permit* pg 29 -30;
- Health and Safety Executive *HSG235 Bulk Storage of Acids*;
- CIRIA *C763 Containment Systems for the Prevention of Pollution* - Chapter 2 includes the relevant risk assessment methodology.

Action: Operator to submit a report outlining procedures and infrastructure for pollution prevention during acid unloading and, if found to be required by a risk based assessment, proposals and timescales for any remedial actions.

EPR Permit and BAT

The most recent permit variation (BX9846ID V005) revised the boundary of the installation to include the new swarf storage area and correct a reporting schedule reference. During the site visit and discussion of current operations, it was apparent that the operating techniques referenced in the permit are now out of date - several process bays and associated emission points have been removed from the permit Emission Limit Value and monitoring tables, but the primary operating techniques documents pre-date these variations.

As such, the operator may wish to apply to vary the permit operating techniques and also consider applying to consolidate the permit into a single, modern format permit, as the original and subsequent variations now comprise five separate parts, with multiple references to deletions and inclusions.

Best Available Techniques (BAT) aim to prevent or reduce emissions and impacts on the environment and industrial installations with specific types of activity must use BAT to prevent and reduced emissions to air, water and land. The new UK BAT process is working through industry sectors in tranches, the output of which is a Reference Note (BREF) and Conclusions document (BATc) which will inform permit reviews for operators in the sector.

It is likely that the relevant primary activity sector for Timet Waunarlwydd will be Surface Treatment of Metals and Plastics (STM BREF) which is included in Tranche 2, expected to be developed from 2024 onwards. There may be an invitation to contribute to the data collection phase and if Timet is a member of a trade body, they may be invited to contribute to a coordinated sector response during the UK BAT process.

The upcoming BAT process presents a timely opportunity for the operator to review and

update the site operating techniques, as this will also serve as a gap analysis exercise ahead of any contribution to STM BREF and BATc development and the subsequent permit review that will be initiated by NRW after publication of the BREF and BATc.

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.