

## Compliance Assessment Report CAR\_NRW0041931

**Permit being assessed:** YP3632EM.

For: Sandycroft Poultry Processing, held by 2 Sisters Food Group Limited  
At: VION Sandycroft Glendale Avenue , Sandycroft, DEESIDE, Clwyd, CH5 2QP.

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

On 07/06/2023 between 11:55 and 12:50.

Parts of permit assessed: various

**NRW Lead Officer:** Rebecca Harwood.

**Report sent to:** Steven Van Der Keift , HS&E Manager on 15/06/2023.

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

Part of permitted activity assessed (criteria)	Assessment result	Permit condition
C2 - General Management - Management system and operating procedures	C3 Minor	1.3.1
C1 - General Management - Staff competency/training	Action only (X)	
B1 - Infrastructure - Engineering for prevention and control of emissions	Action only (X)	
F1 - Amenity - Odour	Assessed (A)	
F2 - Amenity - Noise	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
C2	see text below	Already completed
C1	see text below	31/07/2023
B1	see text below	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

This Compliance Assessment Report follows a routine site inspection undertaken on 7 June 2023 between 11:55 and 12:50. The HS&E Manager, Production Manager and Engineering Manager were on site during the visit.

### **Site visit**

The temporary inflatable building for housing the carcass trailer remains insitu. A number of gulls were observed in the area prior to and during the visit. Dolavs were seen being taken by forklift from the bulk chill area to the trailer housed within the inflatable building.

The Production Manager explained this was an interim operation as there was an issue with the lifting bars in Bay 7. Whole birds delivered to the site for portioning were having to be diverted via the bulk chill loading bays for unloading. Only one of the 2 bays within the bulk chill area was accessible. The onsite vet had stated that CAT3 product could not be stored in the bulk chill area whilst this unloading was happening. It was stated that hock and skin were being loaded into the trailer as a result, and that carcasses were now being sent for export.

Hocks should not be being loaded into this trailer. All animal by-products should be managed and stored at the rear of the site. The carcass trailer was an exception due to logistics on site and the need to change operations due to Avian Influenza.

**The above is a breach of the the sites procedures, operating conditions and interim agreement NRW had with the Operator. This has been scored as a category 3 breach of Condition 1.3.1.**

A follow up email was sent to the Operator to seek clarification on the issue as significant concerns were raised regarding the implementation of such a change and the potential amenity impacts that could arise as a result.

The Operator reported that the export market was still limited and that they were trying to export carcasses when viable. This started on 5 June 2023 and only around 15% of carcasses were going for export. It was also stated that there was '*some confusion with the vet as to the segregation with the bulk chill and this has now been resolved*'.

**Action 1:** Ensure that all procedures relating to the disposal of carcasses and other animal by-products are followed. Procedures should be reviewed and training provided to all staff involved in these aspects of the operations at site. This should be completed by 31 July and an update provided to NRW.

**Permit Variation**

A permit variation has been submitted to NRW to regularise the activities across the site. At the time of the visit a draft permit had been sent to the Operator to review. Queries were raised by the regulating officer relating to the wet chemical scrubber and sludge scrubber referenced in the documents submitted with the variation. The Engineering Manager provided clarification as to which scrubbers were linked to which items of plant and equipment and this was fed back to NRW's Permitting Team.

**Odour**

An odour report was received on 5 June 2023. The Operator's report does not identify any particular issues at the site, although it is noted that the time of the report correlates with the blood tank being emptied. The Engineering Manager confirmed that the seals to the tank have been checked and there were no spillages or issues raised during the emptying of it.

No significant odour was detected on site during the visit. Both the CAT3 trailer area and effluent treatment plant were being washed down at the time of the visit.

**Action 2:** The odour scrubber pipe close to the IBC storage area is still dripping and requires attention. This should be investigated and a repair implemented by 31 July 2023.

An offsite odour review was undertaken both prior to and after the site inspection. A slight transient odour from 2 Sisters was detected close to the Rectory Road and Church View junction, this was similar to the odour on site when the CAT3 trailers are stored and are being washed down. No odour was detected on Chester Road, Hamilton Avenue, Harrison Grove or Phoenix Street.

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](mailto: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](mailto: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.