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Report: **Ambient Bioaerosol Monitoring**  
Client: Severn Trent Green Power Ltd  
Date of Site Work: 12<sup>th</sup> September 2023  
  
Areas: Boundary Monitoring Around Anaerobic Digestion Facility  
  
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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A Fisher'.

Issued by: Andy Fisher B.Sc. (Hons), CertOH, LFOH  
Issue date: 28<sup>th</sup> September 2023  
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## CONTENTS

|                                        |    |
|----------------------------------------|----|
| <b>Executive Summary</b> .....         | 3  |
| 1. Introduction.....                   | 4  |
| 2. Measurement Methodology .....       | 4  |
| 3. Site Information .....              | 6  |
| 4. Measurement Results.....            | 8  |
| 5. Plan .....                          | 14 |
| 6. Discussion .....                    | 17 |
| 7. Conclusions.....                    | 18 |
| Appendix 1. Analysis Certificates..... | 19 |

## Executive Summary

Maria Priestley of Severn Trent Green Power Ltd requested that Element Materials Technology Environmental UK Limited undertake monitoring of ambient bioaerosols at its Bridgend site. Monitoring was undertaken in accordance with Technical Guidance Note M9 'Environmental Monitoring of Bioaerosols at Regulated Facilities'.

Site work was undertaken by Andy Fisher on 12<sup>th</sup> September 2023.

The purpose of the bioaerosol monitoring exercise was to establish the amount of bioaerosols being dispersed from the site to the nearest sensitive receptor, as permitted by Natural Resources Wales.

### Monitoring Findings:

| Sampling Location       | Analyte                      | Permit Limit (CFU/m <sup>3</sup> ) | Median Concentration of Parallel Samples (CFU/m <sup>3</sup> ) |
|-------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|
| Upwind                  | Total bacteria               | 1000                               | 125                                                            |
|                         | <i>Aspergillus fumigatus</i> | 500                                | 125                                                            |
| Downwind                | Total bacteria               | 1000                               | 125                                                            |
|                         | <i>Aspergillus fumigatus</i> | 500                                | <125                                                           |
| Downwind Right Hand Fan | Total bacteria               | 1000                               | <125                                                           |
|                         | <i>Aspergillus fumigatus</i> | 500                                | <125                                                           |
| Downwind Left Hand Fan  | Total bacteria               | 1000                               | <125                                                           |
|                         | <i>Aspergillus fumigatus</i> | 500                                | <125                                                           |

< Less than

CFU/m<sup>3</sup> Colony Forming Units Per Cubic Metre

Below Permit Limit

Exceeds Permit Limit

## 1. Introduction

Element Materials Technology Environmental UK Ltd was commissioned by Severn Trent Green Power Ltd to carry out an ambient bioaerosol monitoring exercise around the Anaerobic Digestion Facility at their Bridgend site.

The purpose of the bioaerosol monitoring exercise was to establish the amount of bioaerosols being dispersed from the site to the nearest sensitive receptor, as per permitted by Natural Resources Wales. Monitoring was undertaken in accordance with Technical Guidance Note M9 'Environmental Monitoring of Bioaerosols at Regulated Facilities'. This report details the survey methodology and results on the monitoring of all locations.

Site work was undertaken by Andy Fisher of Element Materials Technology Environmental UK Ltd on 12<sup>th</sup> September 2023.

## 2. Measurement Methodology

Measurements were carried out in accordance with parameters specified in Technical Guidance Note M9 'Environmental Monitoring of Bioaerosols at Regulated Facilities'. Of the methods suggested in the protocol, the filter method was utilised in this project.

On site calibration checks were performed on the pumps used and were found to be within the permitted tolerance of the relevant standard. For all measurements the sample head was located 1.5 metres above ground level. Due to access issues on the west side of the site, the upwind samples were taken south of the the site boundary.

Permissions were granted to enter the adjacent arable fields to the east of the site boundary.

The onsite weather station did not display wind speed or direction, so reference was made to conditions at ground level and online weather for Bridgend area. Wind direction was generally Easterly (ie source from the west of the site).

Triplicate samples were carried out at each selected sampling location; these were approximately 65 to 85 metres from centre of operations (within the site boundaries). Once completed, filters were transferred to the laboratory. The laboratory reported that samples were received on 13<sup>th</sup> September and deemed to be in suitable condition to culture and proceeded with analysis.

The IOM heads containing a polycarbonate filter were used to determine the bioaerosol exposure under the test conditions. Upon arrival at the laboratory the bioaerosols impacted on each filter were recovered in 2 ml maximum recovery diluent. The target micro-organisms were cultured using appropriate dilutions on the following media.

Half-strength nutrient agar (1/2NA) plates were used for total mesophilic bacteria. Malt extract agar (MEA) plates were used for *Aspergillus fumigatus*.

Samples were incubated for two days at 37°C (total mesophilic bacteria), and for two days at 44°C (*Aspergillus fumigatus*).

The laboratory retained information regarding each sample. Dates and times of preparation, incubation times, batch numbers, personnel responsible, storage medium and incubator temperature were all recorded.

### 3. Site Information

Severn Trent Green Power Ltd operates an anaerobic digestion (AD) facility at their Bridgend site, South Wales, which processes mainly local authority waste and also some commercial solid and liquid food waste (including packaging). The Parc Stormy site is located in Stormy Down, near Porthcawl, and shares the site with Cenin Renewables which operate an incinerated Bottom ash concrete processing plant located on the west portion of the site; further west is a quarry.

The Severn Trent AD Facility has arable fields to the south and the east of the site. The land just north of the access road appears to be a disused quarry now a water reservoir. The nearest residential sensitive receptor is located east and slightly north on the road approaching the A48. Refer to plans in Section 5 for a map of the local area and a map of the sampling locations on the day of the survey.

A permit had been issued to Severn Trent Green Power Ltd by Natural Resources Wales for the emission of bioaerosols implementing the following limits:

| Parameter                         | Threshold limit (CFU/m <sup>3</sup> ) |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Total bacteria (TB)               | 1000                                  |
| <i>Aspergillus fumigatus</i> (AF) | 500                                   |

| Table 1. Environmental Parameters - Bioaerosol monitoring |                                                                   |                                                                         |                                                                                                               |                                      |                                       |                                                          | Job Number 114544                                   |
|-----------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|
| Site:                                                     |                                                                   | Bridgend, S. Wales                                                      |                                                                                                               | Site Operator                        |                                       | Severn Trent Green Power Ltd                             |                                                     |
| Date:                                                     |                                                                   | 12/09/2023                                                              |                                                                                                               | Commissioning Laboratory             |                                       | EMT Environmental                                        |                                                     |
| Estimated Mass of Materials:                              |                                                                   | 50,00 tonnes per year                                                   |                                                                                                               | Types of materials processed on site |                                       | Local authority & commercial food waste (solid & liquid) |                                                     |
| Location                                                  | Bearing of samplers from boundary of operational area (degrees °) | Mean direction the wind blows to during the sampling period (degrees °) | Difference in bearing between location of samplers from boundary and mean direction wind blows to (degrees °) | Mean wind speed (mph)                | Arithmetic mean of air temperature °C | Arithmetic mean of relative humidity (%)                 | Prevailing weather conditions including cloud cover |
| Upwind                                                    | 200                                                               | 85                                                                      | 115                                                                                                           | 7                                    | 21                                    | 68                                                       | Gentle breeze, cloudy with sunny spells             |
| Downwind                                                  | 85                                                                | 85                                                                      | 0                                                                                                             | 7                                    | 21                                    | 68                                                       | Gentle breeze, cloudy with sunny spells             |
| Downwind Right Hand Fan                                   | 50                                                                | 85                                                                      | 35                                                                                                            | 7                                    | 21                                    | 68                                                       | Gentle breeze, cloudy with sunny spells             |
| Downwind Left Hand Fan                                    | 105                                                               | 85                                                                      | 20                                                                                                            | 7                                    | 21                                    | 68                                                       | Gentle breeze, cloudy with sunny spells             |

#### **4. Measurement Results**

The results for measurements undertaken at all locations are shown within a number of standardised tables on the following pages:



| Table 2. Upwind: Bioaerosol monitoring – Estimated Concentrations of Airborne Micro-organisms |             |                                              |                                                                                                               |                |                                       |                |                                                                            | Job Number 114544                                        |          |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|----------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|---------------------------------------|----------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|----------|
| Site:                                                                                         |             | Bridgend, S. Wales                           |                                                                                                               |                | Site Operator:                        |                |                                                                            | Severn Trent Green Power Ltd                             |          |
| Date:                                                                                         |             | 12/09/2023                                   |                                                                                                               |                | Commissioning Laboratory:             |                |                                                                            | EMT Environmental                                        |          |
| Activities affecting Bioaerosol Conc <sup>n</sup>                                             |             | None                                         |                                                                                                               |                | Types of materials processed on site: |                |                                                                            | Local authority & commercial food waste (solid & liquid) |          |
| Location                                                                                      | Sample REF  | Distance from centre of operational area (m) | Difference in bearing between location of samplers from boundary and mean direction wind blows to (degrees °) | Sampling Times | Sampling duration (mins)              | Microbial Type | Calculated concentration of airborne microorganisms (CFU/m <sup>3</sup> )* | Median of parallel samples (CFU/m <sup>3</sup> )         | Comments |
| Upwind                                                                                        | 114544 – 01 | 180                                          | 115                                                                                                           | 12:29 – 13:29  | 60                                    | TB             | 125                                                                        | TB: 125                                                  | -        |
|                                                                                               | 114544 – 02 | 180                                          | 115                                                                                                           |                |                                       | TB             | <125                                                                       |                                                          |          |
|                                                                                               | 114544 - 03 | 180                                          | 115                                                                                                           |                |                                       | TB             | 375                                                                        |                                                          |          |
| Upwind                                                                                        | 114544 – 01 | 180                                          | 115                                                                                                           | 12:29 – 13:29  | 60                                    | AF             | <125                                                                       | AF: <125                                                 | -        |
|                                                                                               | 114544 – 02 | 180                                          | 115                                                                                                           |                |                                       | AF             | <125                                                                       |                                                          |          |
|                                                                                               | 114544 – 03 | 180                                          | 115                                                                                                           |                |                                       | AF             | <125                                                                       |                                                          |          |

\* Site permit limits: Total Bacteria (TB) = 1000 CFU/m<sup>3</sup>

*Aspergillus fumigatus* (AF) = 500 CFU/m<sup>3</sup>

|                    |                      |
|--------------------|----------------------|
| Below permit limit | Exceeds permit limit |
|--------------------|----------------------|

| Table 3. Downwind: Bioaerosol monitoring – Estimated Concentrations of Airborne Micro-organisms |             |                                              |                                                                                                               |                |                                       |                |                                                               | Job Number 114544                                        |          |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|----------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|---------------------------------------|----------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|----------|
| Site:                                                                                           |             |                                              | Bridgend, S. Wales                                                                                            |                | Site Operator:                        |                |                                                               | Severn Trent Green Power Ltd                             |          |
| Date:                                                                                           |             |                                              | 12/09/2023                                                                                                    |                | Commissioning Laboratory:             |                |                                                               | EMT Environmental                                        |          |
| Activities affecting Bioaerosol Conc <sup>n</sup>                                               |             |                                              | None                                                                                                          |                | Types of materials processed on site: |                |                                                               | Local authority & commercial food waste (solid & liquid) |          |
| Location                                                                                        | Sample REF  | Distance from centre of operational area (m) | Difference in bearing between location of samplers from boundary and mean direction wind blows to (degrees °) | Sampling Times | Sampling duration (mins)              | Microbial Type | Calculated concentration of airborne microorganisms (CFU/m³)* | Median of parallel samples (CFU/m³)                      | Comments |
| Downwind                                                                                        | 114544 – 04 | 90                                           | 0                                                                                                             | 12:45 – 13:45  | 60                                    | TB             | <125                                                          | TB: 125                                                  | -        |
|                                                                                                 | 114544 – 05 | 90                                           | 0                                                                                                             |                |                                       | TB             | 125                                                           |                                                          |          |
|                                                                                                 | 114544 – 06 | 90                                           | 0                                                                                                             |                |                                       | TB             | 125                                                           |                                                          |          |
| Downwind                                                                                        | 114544 – 04 | 90                                           | 0                                                                                                             | 12:45 – 13:45  | 60                                    | AF             | <125                                                          | AF: <125                                                 |          |
|                                                                                                 | 114544 – 05 | 90                                           | 0                                                                                                             |                |                                       | AF             | <125                                                          |                                                          |          |
|                                                                                                 | 114544 – 06 | 90                                           | 0                                                                                                             |                |                                       | AF             | <125                                                          |                                                          |          |

\* Site permit limits: Total Bacteria (TB) = 1000 CFU/m<sup>3</sup>

*Aspergillus fumigatus* (AF) = 500 CFU/m<sup>3</sup>

|                    |                      |
|--------------------|----------------------|
| Below permit limit | Exceeds permit limit |
|--------------------|----------------------|

| Table 4. Downwind Right Hand Fan: Bioaerosol monitoring – Estimated Concentrations of Airborne Micro-organisms |             |                                              |                                                                                                               |                |                                       |                |                                                                            | Job Number 114544                                        |          |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|----------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|---------------------------------------|----------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|----------|
| Site:                                                                                                          |             | Bridgend, S. Wales                           |                                                                                                               |                | Site Operator:                        |                |                                                                            | Severn Trent Green Power Ltd                             |          |
| Date:                                                                                                          |             | 12/09/2023                                   |                                                                                                               |                | Commissioning Laboratory:             |                |                                                                            | EMT Environmental                                        |          |
| Activities affecting Bioaerosol Conc <sup>n</sup>                                                              |             | None                                         |                                                                                                               |                | Types of materials processed on site: |                |                                                                            | Local authority & commercial food waste (solid & liquid) |          |
| Location                                                                                                       | Sample REF  | Distance from centre of operational area (m) | Difference in bearing between location of samplers from boundary and mean direction wind blows to (degrees °) | Sampling Times | Sampling duration (mins)              | Microbial Type | Calculated concentration of airborne microorganisms (CFU/m <sup>3</sup> )* | Median of parallel samples (CFU/m <sup>3</sup> )         | Comments |
| Downwind Right Hand Fan                                                                                        | 114544– 07  | 100                                          | 35                                                                                                            | 12:42 – 13:42  | 60                                    | TB             | <125                                                                       | TB: <125                                                 | -        |
|                                                                                                                | 114544 – 08 | 100                                          | 35                                                                                                            |                |                                       | TB             | <125                                                                       |                                                          |          |
|                                                                                                                | 114544 – 09 | 100                                          | 35                                                                                                            |                |                                       | TB             | <125                                                                       |                                                          |          |
| Downwind Right Hand Fan                                                                                        | 114544 – 07 | 100                                          | 35                                                                                                            | 12:42 – 13:42  | 60                                    | AF             | <125                                                                       | AF: <125                                                 | -        |
|                                                                                                                | 114544 – 08 | 100                                          | 35                                                                                                            |                |                                       | AF             | <125                                                                       |                                                          |          |
|                                                                                                                | 114544 – 09 | 100                                          | 35                                                                                                            |                |                                       | AF             | <125                                                                       |                                                          |          |

\* Site permit limits: Total Bacteria (TB) = 1000 CFU/m<sup>3</sup>

*Aspergillus fumigatus* (AF) = 500 CFU/m<sup>3</sup>

|                    |                      |
|--------------------|----------------------|
| Below permit limit | Exceeds permit limit |
|--------------------|----------------------|

| Table 5. Downwind Left Hand Fan: Bioaerosol monitoring – Estimated Concentrations of Airborne Micro-organisms |             |                                              |                                                                                                               |                |                                       |                |                                                                            | Job Number 114544                                        |          |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|----------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|---------------------------------------|----------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|----------|
| Site:                                                                                                         |             |                                              | Bridgend, S. Wales                                                                                            |                | Site Operator:                        |                |                                                                            | Severn Trent Green Power Ltd                             |          |
| Date:                                                                                                         |             |                                              | 12/09/2023                                                                                                    |                | Commissioning Laboratory:             |                |                                                                            | EMT Environmental                                        |          |
| Activities affecting Bioaerosol Conc <sup>n</sup>                                                             |             |                                              | None                                                                                                          |                | Types of materials processed on site: |                |                                                                            | Local authority & commercial food waste (solid & liquid) |          |
| Location                                                                                                      | Sample REF  | Distance from centre of operational area (m) | Difference in bearing between location of samplers from boundary and mean direction wind blows to (degrees °) | Sampling Times | Sampling duration (mins)              | Microbial Type | Calculated concentration of airborne microorganisms (CFU/m <sup>3</sup> )* | Median of parallel samples (CFU/m <sup>3</sup> )         | Comments |
| Downwind Left Hand Fan                                                                                        | 114544 – 10 | 80                                           | 20                                                                                                            | 12:49 – 13:49  | 60                                    | TB             | <125                                                                       | TB: <125                                                 | -        |
|                                                                                                               | 114544 – 11 | 80                                           | 20                                                                                                            |                |                                       | TB             | <125                                                                       |                                                          |          |
|                                                                                                               | 114544 – 12 | 80                                           | 20                                                                                                            |                |                                       | TB             | <125                                                                       |                                                          |          |
| Downwind Left Hand Fan                                                                                        | 114544 – 10 | 80                                           | 20                                                                                                            | 12:49 – 13:49  | 60                                    | AF             | <125                                                                       | AF: <125                                                 | -        |
|                                                                                                               | 114544 – 11 | 80                                           | 20                                                                                                            |                |                                       | AF             | <125                                                                       |                                                          |          |
|                                                                                                               | 114544 – 12 | 80                                           | 20                                                                                                            |                |                                       | AF             | <125                                                                       |                                                          |          |

\* Site permit limits: Total Bacteria (TB) = 1000 CFU/m<sup>3</sup>

*Aspergillus fumigatus* (AF) = 500 CFU/m<sup>3</sup>

|                    |                      |
|--------------------|----------------------|
| Below permit limit | Exceeds permit limit |
|--------------------|----------------------|

| Table 6. Controls and Filter Counts - Bioaerosol monitoring |                   |                                                          |                                              | Job Number: 114544                           |
|-------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| Site: Bridgend, S. Wales                                    |                   | Date: 12/09/2023                                         | Site Operator : Severn Trent Green Power Ltd | Commissioning Laboratory : EMT Environmental |
| Types of materials processed on site :                      |                   | Local authority & commercial food waste (solid & liquid) |                                              |                                              |
| Location                                                    | Sample Ref Number | Microbial Type                                           | Average Count of microorganisms (CFU/filter) | Comments                                     |
| Upwind                                                      | 114544 – 01       | TB                                                       | 1,0                                          | None received                                |
|                                                             |                   | AF                                                       | 0,0                                          |                                              |
| Upwind                                                      | 114544 – 02       | TB                                                       | 0,0                                          | None received                                |
|                                                             |                   | AF                                                       | 0,0                                          |                                              |
| Upwind                                                      | 114544 – 03       | TB                                                       | 3,0                                          | None received                                |
|                                                             |                   | AF                                                       | 0,0                                          |                                              |
| Downwind                                                    | 114544 – 04       | TB                                                       | 0,0                                          | None recieved                                |
|                                                             |                   | AF                                                       | 0,0                                          |                                              |
| Downwind                                                    | 114544 – 05       | TB                                                       | 1,0                                          | None received                                |
|                                                             |                   | AF                                                       | 0,0                                          |                                              |
| Downwind                                                    | 114544 – 06       | TB                                                       | 1,0                                          | None recieved                                |
|                                                             |                   | AF                                                       | 0,0                                          |                                              |
| Downwind Right Hand Fan                                     | 114544 – 07       | TB                                                       | 0,0                                          | None received                                |
|                                                             |                   | AF                                                       | 0,0                                          |                                              |
| Downwind Right Hand Fan                                     | 114544 – 08       | TB                                                       | 0,0                                          | None received                                |
|                                                             |                   | AF                                                       | 0,0                                          |                                              |
| Downwind Right Hand Fan                                     | 114544 – 09       | TB                                                       | 0,0                                          | None received                                |
|                                                             |                   | AF                                                       | 0,0                                          |                                              |
| Downwind Left Hand Fan                                      | 114544 – 10       | TB                                                       | 0,0                                          | None received                                |
|                                                             |                   | AF                                                       | 0,0                                          |                                              |
| Downwind Left Hand Fan                                      | 114544 – 11       | TB                                                       | 0,0                                          | None received                                |
|                                                             |                   | AF                                                       | 0,0                                          |                                              |
| Downwind Left Hand Fan                                      | 114544 – 12       | TB                                                       | 0,0                                          | None received                                |
|                                                             |                   | AF                                                       | 0,0                                          |                                              |

## 5. Plan

A standard map is shown on the next page. The operational boundary of the site is shown in red and the sample points are shown and labelled.

| Bioaerosol Monitoring – Estimated Concentrations of Airborne Micro Organisms |                                                          | Job Number 114544        |                              |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------|
| Site                                                                         | Bridgend, South Wales                                    | Site Operator            | Severn Trent Green Power Ltd |
| Date                                                                         | 12/09/2023                                               | Commissioning Laboratory | EMT Environmental            |
| Types of materials processed on site                                         | Local authority & commercial food waste (solid & liquid) |                          |                              |

Site boundary marked in as orange



| Bioaerosol Monitoring – Estimated Concentrations of Airborne Micro Organisms |                                                          | Job Number: 114544       |                              |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------|
| Site                                                                         | Bridgend, South Wales                                    | Site Operator            | Severn Trent Green Power Ltd |
| Date                                                                         | 12/09/2023                                               | Commissioning Laboratory | EMT Environmental            |
| Types of materials processed on site                                         | Local authority & commercial food waste (solid & liquid) |                          |                              |





## 6. Discussion

Samples for this monitoring were collected using the filter option of the guidance document M9.

As previously reported, if access permissions to surrounding arable land can be arranged during future site monitoring, this would be preferable to sampling within the boundary of the site allowing full capture of the operation and reduce impact from turbulent airflow to the downstream samples.

Weather conditions on the day were more favourable with a gentle breeze, and no precipitation. Access was also granted to enter the adjacent arable fields to obtain downwind samples.

Whilst it is possible to replicate the sampling points, many other variables will have changed such as temperature, wind speed and wind direction. As such this monitoring is only a snapshot of the situation on site, not a complete picture. The sampling should be carried out at least quarterly to build up an idea of the characteristics of the site.

All results for *Aspergillus fumigatus* (AF) were below the site permit limits.  
All of the results were below the site permit limit for total bacteria.

## 7. Conclusions

Element Materials Technology Environmental UK Limited was commissioned by Severn Trent Green Power Ltd to carry out a bioaerosol monitoring exercise at the Anaerobic Digestion Facility in Bridgend, South Wales.

Measurements were carried out in accordance with parameters specified in Technical Guidance Note M9 'Environmental monitoring of bioaerosols at regulated facilities'. Of the methods suggested in the protocol, the filter method was utilised in this project.

The data results during this exercise show that individual and median results for total bacteria were within the permit limits.

The data results show that individual and median results for *Aspergillus fumigatus* were below the site permit limits.

## **Appendix 1. Analysis Certificates**

To be supplied as V2 following amendments from laboratory