

Compliance Assessment Report CAR_NRW0043259

Permit being assessed: YP3937SH.

For: Amex Park, **held by:** Mekatek Limited

At: Llanstephan Road, Johnstown, SA31 3NF.

Type of assessment: Report/Data Review,

Reason: Routine.

On: 31/12/2023.

Parts of permit assessed: Emissions and monitoring, Information.

NRW Lead Officer: Alex Bowder.

Report sent to: Peter Ryall, Daniel Lewis, Senior Compliance Officer, Technical and Compliance Director, on 30/01/2024.

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

Part of permitted activity assessed (compliance criteria)	Assessment result	Permit condition
IR3A - Emissions and monitoring - Emissions to water, air or land	C3 Minor	3.1.2
IR3B - Emissions and monitoring - Emissions of substances not controlled by emission limits	Assessed (A)	
IR4B - Information - Reporting	Assessed (A)	
IR4C - Information - Notification	Assessed (A)	

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

Total 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
IR3A	Improve operations to ensure that total nitrogen (N) emissions to W1 do not exceed the permitted parameter.	29/02/2024

Compliance 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

This Compliance Assessment Report (CAR) has been issued in response to the submission of the Q4 (October - December) 2023 monitoring returns by Mekatek Limited (the operator) for activities at Amex Park, Llansteffan Road, Johnstown, Carmarthen SA31 3NF under permit number EPR-YP3937SH.

This CAR was undertaken on 30 January 2024. However, to ensure that the CCS score is attributed to the correct financial year (for billing) the date on CARS has been altered to 31 December 2023.

Q4 2023 Monitoring Returns

Releases to water - *Water1*

The returns for reporting of sampling and analysis of emissions to water (other than sewer) for the period Q4 (1 October - 31 December) 2023 were submitted on 26 January.

This data was sent within the reporting period, which is **compliant** with permit condition 4.2.3.

Based on the reports submitted by the operator, all other emissions at the monitoring point W1 appear **compliant** with the specified limits over the Q4 reporting period.

Schedule 6 Notification - *November 2023*

On 2 January 2024, the operator submitted a schedule 6 notification containing a part A and B detailing exceedance of an emission limit at W1.

In November 2023, a composite sample gave a reading of 72.2 mg/l of nitrogen. The operator raised the point surrounding the accuracy of results due to testing equipment.

Table S3.2 of the permit dictates the parameters for the emission types:

Emission point W1 for Total nitrogen (N) shall not exceed:

- 25 mg/l

This reading has exceeded the ELV specified in Table S3.2.

Schedule 6 Notification - *December 2023*

On 15 January 2024, the operator submitted a schedule 6 notification containing a part A and B detailing exceedance of an emission limit at W1.

In December 2023, a composite sample gave a reading of 41.7 mg/l of nitrogen. This reading has also exceeded the ELV specified in Table S3.2.

The operator stated that internal analysis found investigations into the exceedance inconclusive and highlighted possible issues with confidence in accuracy of internal analysis measurements being taken. The operator is looking at enhanced bacteria introductions for the biological process targeting nitrogen removal. Please see that this task is followed through and provide NRW with relevant information relating to this matter.

In accordance with NRW's non-compliance scoring guidance, the non-compliance scores for the breaches during Q4 2023 reporting period have been consolidated into one non-compliance score.

In accordance with NRW's compliance scoring guidance, a non-compliance score of C3 has been recorded against sub-criteria IR3A.

C3 PERMIT BREACH IR3A - Emissions and monitoring - Emissions to water, air, or land
Emissions and monitoring, condition 3.1.2: <i>"The limits given in schedule 3 shall not be exceeded"</i>

If you have any issues with this report, please contact Senior Regulation Officer Alex Bowder at Alex.Bowder@cyfoethnaturiolcymru.gov.uk.

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.

If your assessment result in Section 1 is suspended, what does this mean?

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 compliance criteria (used in section 1 and 2):

1. Management

- IR1A – General management
- IR1B – Finance (only applicable to Landfill)
- IR1C – Energy efficiency
- IR1D - Efficient use of raw materials
- IR1E - Avoidance, recovery and disposal of wastes produced by the activities
- IR1F - Multiple operator installations

2. Operations

- IR2A – Permitted activities
- IR2B – The site
- IR2C – Operating techniques
- IR2D – Technical requirements
- IR2E – Improvement programme
- IR2F – Pre-operational conditions
- IR2G – Landfill engineering (only applicable to Landfill)
- IR2H – Waste acceptance (only applicable to Landfill)
- IR2I – Leachate levels (only applicable to Landfill)
- IR2J – Closure and aftercare (only applicable to Landfill)
- IR2K – Landfill gas management (only applicable to Landfill)

3. Emission and Monitoring

- IR3A – Emissions to water, air or land
- IR3B – Emissions of substances not controlled by emission limits
- IR3C – Odour
- IR3D – Noise and vibration
- IR3E – Monitoring
- IR3F – Pests
- IR3G – Air quality management plans
- IR3H – Monitoring for the purposes of the Industrial Emissions Directive (this heading includes Large Combustion Plants)
- IR3I – Fire

4. Information

- IR4A – Records
- IR4B – Reporting
- IR4C – Notification

Enforcement response

Any non-compliance with a permit condition 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 twenty 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 to 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.