

## Compliance Assessment Report CAR\_NRW0043362

**Permit being assessed:** LP3439HM.

**For:** Roath Dock Treatment and Recycling Centre NRW/EPR/LP3439HM/V003, **held by:** Castle Waste Services Limited

**At:** Roath Dock Transfer Station Old Clipper Road , Roath Dock, Cardiff, CF10 4LX.

**Type of assessment:** Report/Data Review,

**Reason:** Routine.

**On:** 31/12/2023.

**Parts of permit assessed:** Quarter four and annual returns 2023.

**NRW Lead Officer:** Dale Padfield.

**Report sent to:** Dave Humphriss, Operations Director, on 07/02/2024.

### 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 (Suspended)	3.1.2
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IR4B - Information - Reporting	Assessed (A)	

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

Total non-compliances recorded	Total non-compliance score
4	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
IR3A	Ensure compliance with total Cr ELV is achieved by August	31/08/2024

Criteria	Action needed	Complete by
	2024	
IR3A	Ensure compliance with Cr(vi) ELV is achieved by August 2024.	31/08/2024
IR3A	Ensure compliance with Cu ELV is achieved by August 2024.	31/08/2024
IR3A	Ensure compliance is Pb ELV is achieved by August 2024.	31/08/2024

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

Castle Waste Services Limited

EPR/LP3439HM

This compliance assessment report details review of;

- Quarter four (October – December) 2023 Waste returns.
- Quarter four (October – December) 2023 emissions to Sewer.
- Annual performance reporting as per permit condition 4.2.

#### Quarter four waste returns

The Q4 waste returns were received on the 31/01/2024. All EWC codes were compliant with the permit, the returns are accepted.

#### Quarter four emissions to sewer

The results for parameters that were in breach of the BAT AELs are detailed in the table below. A schedule 5 notification was submitted alongside the S1 form. All other parameters were within the permitted ELVs.

Parameters/Substances	Result	BAT AEL
Total Chromium	0.37 mg/l to 0.39 mg/l	0.3 mg/l
Copper	0.56 mg/l to 0.9 mg/l	0.5 mg/l
Lead	0.44 mg/l to 1.31 mg/l	0.3 mg/l

Cr(VI)	0.2 mg/l to 0.99 mg/l	0.1 mg/l
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As stated within the previous CAR forms NRW assess exceedances of different determinants separately and cannot consolidate them together. We do however consolidate into reporting quarters. Therefore, a noncompliance score is being issued for each of the parameters in exceedance of the BAT AEL and immediately suspended as agreed. Consequently **4 x Category 3 non-compliances are being issued against permit condition 3.1.2.** As mentioned in CAR Form CAR\_NRW0040821 any exceedances of the BAT AEL's will be scored and suspended until August 2024, whereby BAT AELS will be compliant for the scores will be implemented.

During the quarter Castle reported sending 32 duplicate samples to an accredited third-party laboratory, as with previous duplicate analysis, all parameters were measured to be within the BAT AELs for all determinands. As such, Castle believe that their current effluent treatment process is capable of achieving all BAT AELs without the ETP improvement (additional polishing step) that was originally thought to be required. It does appear that the issue of high metal ion concentrations is a symptom of inaccurate internal analysis. Castle are compiling the findings with the intention of re-submitting IC 5, to identify if monitoring frequencies can be reduced (sufficiently low and sufficiently stable) - in line with footnote 1 of BAT 7 of the Waste Treatment BRef.

Cr(vi) analysis continues to be reported above total Cr, indicating issues with the Cr(vi) analysis. Castle are now in discussion with the laboratory to identify a method to reduce the turbidity within the Cr(vi) samples, which may be causing interference with the analysis, resulting in erroneous Cr(vi) results. Please keep NRW updated with any progress on this matter.

**Annual Returns**

**Total waste inputs & outputs:**

Input waste volumes have seen a slight decrease on those for 2022 with a total of 15,720 tonnes in 2023. Total waste outputs were similar to that of 2022 with a total of 6145 tonnes removed from the site during 2023.

**Energy:**

Total electricity consumption (calculated as primary energy) for 2023 was reported as 1015 MWh, which is similar to that reported for 2022 ~ 1016 MWh.

Reported primary energy usage for gas oil has continued to decrease, with a total of 102.2 MWh. When calculated as specific usage (kWh/t of waste accepted) the 2023 value ~ 6.9 kWh/t shows a 3% reduction on the previous year ~ 7.1 kWh/t.

Total primary energy was reported as 1123.6 MWh for 2023, which was a slight decrease on the 2022 figure of 1139.32 MWh, however, specific usage (kWh per tonne of waste accepted) has increased slightly during 2023 to 71.2 kWh/t compared to 65.5 kWh/t in 2022. Castle report that several projects have bene undertaken during 2023, with contractors being present on site for long periods of time. It is believed this may have contributed to the apparent decrease in efficiency.

**Water consumption:**

Previous years water consumption figures were based on calculated estimations. If the same estimation process is used for 2023, it provides a figure of 3692.6 m<sup>3</sup>, a decrease on the previous years figure of 4477.7 m<sup>3</sup>. However, a water meter has now been installed which has revealed the estimation methodology to be grossly inaccurate, the metered volume indicates a total of 13,705 m<sup>3</sup> was used on site during 2023. Meters volumes will now be used to assess trends in future reporting.

**Raw materials:**

NRW a pleased to see that castle continue to not utilise any raw materials in the onsite operations, with the site continuing to utilise waste opposed to raw materials such as lime.

**Improvements:**

Castle have reported that the bulk storage tanks 1 – 4 have been subject to shot blasting and repainting, with improvements made to the tank inspection regime. The tanks are now subject to a rolling 5 yearly inspection in accordance with a written scheme of examination generated by a competent third party. Legacy tanks have been removed and replaced with new HDPE tanks. Civils improvements have been completed in the yard 1 press house and tanker offload area. NRW are pleased with the effort the operator has shown in improving the onsite infrastructure.

**Continuous improvement:**

Castle report that improvement projects will continue into 2024. Over the coming year the focus will be on the installation of infrastructure to support the effluent management system and a project to harvest rainwater to reduce consumption of potable water.

NRW are pleased with the sites performance for 2023. Some issues remain with the effluent discharges, but as previously stated this appears to be an issue with the onsite analysis of the effluent opposed to actual elevated discharges to sewer. In light of this, and as previously discussed, NRW intend to conduct an 'Operator monitoring assessment' (OMA) to water to evaluate the quality and reliability of the monitoring, this will include all aspects from sampling to data management. This will likely be conducted in Q2, you will be contacted in due course to provide the relevant documentation and for a site visit date to be agreed.

End.

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](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.