

## Compliance Assessment Report CAR\_NRW0043378

**Permit being assessed:** BP1772IZ.

**For:** Poeton Cardiff, **held by:** Poeton (Cardiff) Limited

**At:** Poeton (Cardiff) Ltd, 283 Penarth Road, Cardiff, Cardiff, CF11 8UL.

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

**Reason:** Routine.

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

**Parts of permit assessed:** Bi-annual and annual returns reporting.

**NRW Lead Officer:** Dale Padfield.

**Report sent to:** Jason Hamling, HSE & Facilities Manager, on 08/02/2024.

### 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	Assessed (A)	
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
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?

No action required.

### 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

### Poeton Cardiff

### EPR/BP1772IZ

This compliance assessment report (CAR) details:

- Review of the annual performance returns submitted as per permit condition 4.2.2(a) for the 2023 reporting period.
- Review of the S1 emissions to sewer for the July to December 2023 reporting period.

### Annual report:

The annual report was received by NRW on the 31<sup>st</sup> of January 2024. Poeton have continued to see an increase in the workload, with the number of parts processed increasing by 38.79% and an increase of 51.28% in site turnover, NRW is pleased to see that the business is recovering from the impact seen during covid.

### Water use:

Water use has seen an increase when compared to 2022 figures, with specific usage (m<sup>3</sup>/operational hour) increasing from 4.23 m<sup>3</sup>/op hour to 4.53 m<sup>3</sup>/op hour. Poeton believe this increase is a result of the significant increase in workload. Energy saving projects, including the addition of coffles to heated process tanks would have helped reduce water usage, Poeton believes without these projects it is likely the water usage figure would have been higher.

### Energy use:

Primary energy usage has increased on the 2022 value, with a total of 3366.6 MWh reported for 2023, an increase of 74.6 MWh. This is reflected in an increase of 0.01 MWh per operational hour, and 0.02 kg of CO<sub>2</sub> per operational hour. These increases are likely a reflection of the increased throughput of the facility during 2023. Poeton have reported the roll-out of continual improvement projects whereby more efficient equipment and lightning continues to be installed. Energy saving projects for 2024 are planned, pending the results of trial being conducted at their sister plant in Gloucester. NRW welcome initiative shown to reduce the environmental impact of the installation, please keep NRW updated with any progress on this project.

Poeton may want to consider an alternative method for calculating specific usage. The current method, utilising operational hours, may not be adequately capturing the results of any energy / water saving projects. As the reported operational hours have remained consistent from 2022 (6400 hours), this metric doesn't capture the increase in throughput or workload. A better metric may be to use the quantity of parts processed, as the energy and water usage would naturally increase with the quantity of throughput, any measures Poeton implement to increase efficiency will then be reflected in the quantity of water or energy per part processed.

### Waste Production:

Waste generation has continued to increase, with a total of 49.44 tonnes of hazardous and 28.99 tonnes of recycled waste being removed from site in 2023. Poeton have stated, as was stated last year, that this is a

result of the continued removal of historic accumulated waste as well as increased production and the requirement to swap out processing solutions in order to adhere to customer specifications. Poeton have now assigned the senior special projects engineer with managing the stock more efficiently and reducing or limiting where possible the generation of waste. Poeton are advised to ensure that waste accumulation on site is limited and effectively managed, inline with Article 4 of the waste framework directive.

Mass release of pollutants:

Mass release of mercury has remained stable ~ effectively zero with the reported value likely to be below the limit of detection (0.002 mg).

Mass release of cadmium has increased on the 2022 reported figure, with a total of 8.4 Kg released to sewer. Poeton are in the final stages of submitting a permit variation, for the upgrades planned for their ETP process, some elements of their first phase are already underway.

NRW expects to see a reduction in the mass release of cadmium during 2024, in part due to the ETP upgrades. Beyond the ETP upgrade, a significant improvement in ELV to sewer compliance has been seen during the last two quarters of 2023. It is clear that Poeton have made significant improvements to the management of their effluent, the root cause of the ELV exceedances have been identified and measures have been implemented to improve compliance. The improvement is evident in the effluent monitoring results, which have been compliant since October 2023. NRW are pleased with the improvements seen at site and appreciate the effort Poeton have shown in returning to compliance. We hope this trend continues throughout 2024.

#### **S1 ~ Emissions to sewer July – December 2023**

For this reporting period the only ELV exceedances have been for Cadmium, which have already been captured and scored within CAR\_NRW0042445 and CAR\_NRW0042613. All other parameters have been within compliance. Results from the monitoring conducted by DCWW have also been reviewed, which confirm those supplied by Poeton. The returns are accepted.

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.