

Compliance Assessment Report CAR_NRW0043589

Permit being assessed: VP3095FS.

For: Soil and Aggregates Treatment Plant, **held by:** Neal Soil Suppliers Ltd

At: Atlantic Ecopark, Newton Road, Rumney, Cardiff, CF3 2EJ.

Type of assessment: Report/Data Review,

Reason: Routine.

On: 31/12/2023.

Parts of permit assessed: Annual Returns.

NRW Lead Officer: Lewis Evans.

Report sent to: Gavin Powell, Group Technical manager, on 26/02/2024.

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

Part of permitted activity assessed (compliance criteria)	Assessment result	Permit condition
IR1A - Management - General management	Action only (X)	

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?

Criteria	Action needed	Complete by
IR1A	Please submit to NRW by the 4th April 2024 a narrative of the movement of material on site, the breakdown of material that is passing through the different activities as specified in the permit. And can you provide a further narrative on how the material is processed when it arrives on site.	04/04/2024

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.

You are non-compliant with your permit.

We are currently considering taking enforcement action against you for the non-compliance recorded above. We will contact you in due course.

4. Details of our assessment

Neal Soil Suppliers

Permit Number: EPR-VP3095FS

Neal Soil Suppliers Limited (hereafter Neals) submitted their annual report to Natural Resources Wales (NRW) to satisfy permit condition 4.2.2 which sets out the following:

“For the following activities referenced in schedule 1, table S1.1 (A1 to A3), a report or reports on the performance of the activities over the previous year shall be submitted to Natural Resources Wales by 31 January (or other date agreed in writing by Natural Resources Wales) each year. The report(s) shall include as a minimum:

- (a) a review of the results of the monitoring and assessment carried out in accordance with the permit including an interpretive review of that data;
- (b) the annual production / treatment data set out in schedule 4 table S4.2; and
- (c) the performance parameters set out in schedule 4 table S4.3 using the forms specified in table S4.4 of that schedule.

This was submitted on the 11th of January 2024 which was within the deadline set in the permit condition above. Also included in the report are the following reports: Water Usage, Energy Usage, Raw Materials and Performance Indicators.

Waste Returns

Waste returns from Neals were submitted to NRW on time and have been accepted.

The table below show the material inputs and exports from the waste returns that were submitted to NRW throughout the year and include Q1, 2 3 and 4.

	Received	Removed
Q1	177,446.14	32,491.44
Q2	189,043.10	27,535.60
Q3	203,695.68	44,111.39
Q4	172,972.75	23,698.00
Total	743,157.67	127,836.43
Aggregates Recovered		135,000
Remaining on site	480321.24	

Within the waste returns that were submitted, there were descriptions of that Neal Soils had done with the material for example for the Soil Washing process, the recovery code R05.04 Chemical-Physical treatment e.g., Soil Washing has been placed next to appropriate waste

code was used.

With only the information from the waste returns received, there is an uncertainty on the movement of the incoming materials i.e. what material has entered site and passed through the wash plant from table S2.2A and what material has entered site and is linked in with soil and aggregate processing S2.3.

Action 1: Please submit to NRW by the 4th April 2024 a narrative of the movement of material on site, the breakdown of material that is passing through the different activities as specified in the permit. And can you provide a further narrative on how the material is processed when it arrives on site.

Energy Usage

The site used 117,588 litres of diesel was used by the site's generators in 2023. This is down 1,708 litres from 2022.

Water Usage

There was no water imported to this site for the year 2023, this is due to the wash plant working in a closed loop system. Additional comments from the site have stated that additional water has been obtained from the interceptor ditches on site to be used to top up the Wash Plant.

Performance Parameters

The following table shows the total treated materials on site in 2023.

Parameter	Units
Treated Non-Hazardous	165,000 Tonnes
Treated Hazardous	35,000 Tonnes
Aggregates Recovered	135,000 Tonnes

Raw Materials

The raw materials include both the waste materials treated in the wash plant throughout the year and those virgin raw materials used on site as part of the process.

DFloc 331 – 4400kg
 DFloc 5278 – 4000kg
 D-Sperse PE58 – 3000kg
 DFloc 335 – 3300kg
 Sulphuric Acid – 4200kg

Light Sludge

Approximately 89.68 tonnes of this sludge were produced in 2023, all of which were sent out to "Tradebe UK" for disposal as hazardous waste. Neals have provided scans of the disposal tickets for the sludges in Appendix B of the report. Production of light sludge has decreased from 101.04tonnes in 2022 to 89.68 tonnes in 2023.

Light Debris

Small fractions of light fractions made up of light plastics, paper and polystyrene balls etc. also accumulate on the wash plant. This is sent over to Atlantic Recycling as 19 12 12 material to be processed. A total of 1,428.76 tonnes was removed from Neals in 2023. Waste transfer notes were produced and copies of them are held with in the submitted report.

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 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.