

Compliance Assessment Report CAR_NRW0044580

Permit being assessed: GP3830BG.

For: Chirk Landfill Site EPR/GP3830BG, **held by:** FCC Waste Services (UK) Limited

At: Pen-y-Bont Works , Chirk, WREXHAM, Clwyd, LL14 5AR.

Type of assessment: Report/Data Review,

Reason: Routine.

On: 31/03/2024.

Parts of permit assessed: Annual Report & Q1 Monitoring Returns.

NRW Lead Officer: Paul Challender.

Report sent to: Compliance Advisor, Compliance Advisor, on 25/06/2024.

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

Part of permitted activity assessed (compliance criteria)	Assessment result	Permit condition
IR3E - Installations - Emissions and monitoring - Monitoring	Assessed (A)	
IR4A - Installations - Information - Records	Assessed (A)	
IR4B - Installations - 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

This Compliance Assessment Report (CAR) has been generated by the regulating Natural Resources Wales (NRW) officer to comment upon the submitted Annual Report and Q1 Monitoring Returns including the updated Gas Management Plan.

Annual Report

The Annual Report was submitted to NRW via email on 27/03/24 as required by Permit Condition 4.2.2 and contained all expected information with no issues identified with the submitted data.

The report refers to a historic land use assessment conducted to attempt to ascertain the root cause of elevated Zinc and Manganese levels in some boreholes. At present NRW neither rejects or accepts this assessment and is maintaining a watching brief on the groundwater data.

Gas Management Plan

The revised GMP now at version 5 and dated February 2024 was submitted on 08/03/24. The GMP was revised due to a downsizing of the gas engines in the gas utilisation compound. Some gas operating parameters (GOPs) were identified as being under review. The GMP still identified as V5 and dated February 2024 with finalised GOPs was submitted on 05/04/24.

Q1 Monitoring Returns

Leachate Levels

Leachate levels are compliant at the monitoring points required by Table S3.1.

Point Source Emissions to air (Flare/Gas Engine Emissions)

Monitoring was carried out to satisfy the requirements of Table 3.2. This data was presented in the Annual Monitoring Report with no breaches of emission limit values (elvs) when LFTGN08 uncertainty values are applied.

NB: Table S3.2 applies the elvs for NO_x, CO and TVOCs for engines commissioned after 31st December 2005. The operator has provided details of the installation of new micro-gen engines which are subject to these lower limits.

Surface Water

Monitoring of surface water was carried out as required by Tables S3.3 & S3.9. No breaches were reported in this quarter. No data was presented for discharge points WP4 & WP5 as no discharge has occurred at those locations.

Groundwater

Groundwater samples were taken throughout the monitoring period in accordance with Tables S3.4 and S3.10. All reported parameters were within required limits.

Landfill Gas in External Monitoring

Landfill gas in external monitoring boreholes was monitored as per the requirements of Table S3.5. Borehole T11 is a monitoring point with constantly high CH₄ levels that are known not to be of landfill origin. T11 is in close proximity to T10 and is believed to give rise to interference of recorded gas levels at T10. During this reporting period however, CH₄ did not exceed the 1% v/v CH₄ emission limit value at T10.

A basal depth purging exercise of T10. This work was carried out to remove any potential organic matter that may have accumulated in the well screen over time. There have been no detections of CH₄ since purging.

All other boreholes were compliant for this quarter.

Landfill Gas in Waste Monitoring Points

In waste gas monitoring took place as per the requirements of Table S3.7. In waste gas parameters were monitored and reported as being acted upon across Q1. In this quarter, 199 readings of oxygen levels exceeding 5% were recorded and multiple readings for percentage gas balance being greater than 20%.

High CO was detected at well 116. Corrective action has resulted in a lowering of the level which has been maintained.

FCC has started a range of gas field improvements to be carried forward through this year's reporting quarters.

Leachate

Six monthly leachate monitoring was last conducted in November 2023 per Permit Condition 3.5.1(a), Schedule 3, Table S3.8. The next round of 6 monthly and annual leachate quality monitoring will take place in May 2024.

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.