

Compliance Assessment Report CAR_NRW0044679

Permit being assessed: PP3993VS.

For: Atlantic Recycling Limited, **held by:** Atlantic Recycling Limited

At: Rumney, Cardiff, Glamorgan, CF3 2EJ.

Type of assessment: Site Inspection,

Reason: Routine.

On: 13/06/2024 between 09:45 and 12:30.

Parts of permit assessed: Site Inspection.

NRW Lead Officer: Lewis Evans, accompanied by Geraint Harris, Kelly Sherratt.

Report sent to: Phil Ridley, Director , on 05/07/2024.

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

Part of permitted activity assessed (compliance criteria)	Assessment result	Permit condition
IR2B - Installations - Operations - The site	Action only (X)	
IR2A - Installations - Operations - Permitted activities	C3 Minor	2.1.1
IR2A - Installations - Operations - Permitted activities	Action only (X)	
IR2B - Installations - Operations - The site	Action only (X)	
IR2A - Installations - Operations - Permitted activities	Action only (X)	
IR2B - Installations - Operations - The site	Action only (X)	
IR3F - Installations - Emissions and monitoring - Pests	Action only (X)	
IR3E - Installations - Emissions and monitoring - Monitoring	Action only (X)	
IR2B - Installations - Operations - The site	Action only (X)	
IR3A - Installations - Emissions and monitoring - Emissions to water, air or land	Action only (X)	
IR1A - Installations - Management - General Management	C3 Minor	1.1.1

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

Total non-compliances recorded	Total non-compliance score
2	8

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
IR2B	ACTION 1: Can you provide details on how long this waste has been on site for and the tonnage of this material by the 5th of August 2024.	05/08/2024
IR2A	ACTION 3: Please submit to NRW the Dust Management Plan you hold for site by the 5th of August 2024.	05/08/2024
IR2A	ACTION 4: Please confirm the EWC code that is used for this tarmac/asphalt waste and any further information/sampling that proves there are no hazardous material present in the waste by the 5th of August 2024.	05/08/2024
IR2B	ACTION 5: Please submit to NRW the information you hold on this waste material on Field 2 by the 5th of August 2024.	05/08/2024
IR2A	ACTION 6: Please can you submit the log of the movements of the waste located on Field 1 from when it has arrived on site, the timeline of the processing of the waste and the expected departure dates of this material, furthermore the mass balance of current held tonnage by the 5th of August 2024.	05/08/2024
IR2B	ACTION 7: Please provide NRW with evidence of surface integrity checks of the concrete underneath the waste stockpiles, and across the concrete structure on Field 1. To include but not limited to depth, wear, ensure proper run off/ drainage fall to the sealed drainage leachate lagoon by the 5th of August 2024.	05/08/2024
IR3F	ACTION 8: Please submit to NRW your Pest Management Plan by the 5th of August 2024.	05/08/2024
IR3E	ACTION 9: Please submit to NRW screenshots of the temperature probes log for the time of the visit (13th June 2024 between 10am and 2pm) including the evidence of the use of IR CCTV by the 5th of August 2024.	05/08/2024
IR2B	ACTION 10: Can you confirm to NRW, where this green waste is sent for disposal/recovery by the 5th of August 2024	05/08/2024
IR3A	Action 11: Take representative samples of the liquid held in ditch, as pictured above and submit the independent analysis to NRW. Additionally, can you provide to NRW an assessment on how the storage ditches meets the requirements of Ciria736. This should be submitted to NRW by the 2nd of September	05/08/2024

Criteria	Action needed	Complete by
	2024.	
IR1A	Action 2: Please ensure that condition 1.1.1 is complied with and that processing is now being done within the building, please provide evidence of this to NRW by the 5th of August 2024.	05/07/2024

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

Atlantic Recycling Limited Visit 13th June

Officer EVANS, HARRIS and SHERRATT of Natural Resources Wales (NRW) arrived at Atlantic Recycling Limited (ARL) at 09:45. The sign-in procedures were followed and met the Director of Dauson Environmental Group (DDEG) and the Group Technical Manager of Dauson Environmental Group (GTMDEG) who escorted NRW officers around the site.

Waste Transfer Station

A walk round of the waste transfer station was done to show Officers HARRIS and SHERRATT the processes that take place when skips arrive on site and get dropped off before being separated and sorted prior to going along the two picking lines.

On the transfer station pad, there were stockpiles of different waste materials i.e., wood, plasterboard and stone material. There was seen to be a large stockpile of incoming third-party waste material which had a height clearly above the recommended 4m NRW FPMP guidance. The storage heights of the waste are an ongoing issue and will be assessed at a later date.

The picture below shows Officer HARRIS standing next to the waste material on the transfer station for size reference.



ACTION 1: Can you provide details on how long this waste has been on site for and the tonnage of this waste by the 5th of August 2024.

On the transfer station area there was a significant number of seagulls seen which were gathering on the waste piles. See later in the CAR for further details, scores and actions relating to this issue.

Receiving waste material was seen in stockpiles greater than 4m which were due to be processed. The DDEG estimated that there was a couple of days' worth of waste stockpiled in this area.

Discussions took place regarding the issues relating to the sealed drainage at the rear of the MRF area where there was no kerb in place, but the use of concrete 'lego' edging blocks were used. The use of the 'lego' blocks is not considered to be sufficient as sealed drainage. However, both DDEG and GTMDEG stated that the new building will be built soon, and new kerbs will be installed continuing the kerb from the SRF area. Officer SHERRATT advised that soil analysis would be recommended prior to the building works taking place to identify the condition of the ground and if any contamination has occurred that this would be remediated prior to the building being erected. DDEG agreed that this would be done routinely before the new building has been

built.

The workers at ARL had finished their break and the picking lines started up for officers to observe. During the commencement of operations, it was noted that there was significant dust arising from the grabber dropping waste into the box-shaker. Additionally, there was considerable noise arising from the machinery and diesel generator. There were fumes arising from the generator. ARL staff mentioned there were future plans to remove the generator units with other means to power the site. Underneath the picking lines are the bays in which recyclable material is dropped and collected before being removed off site. Under the trommel is where the fines are collected and stored on site prior to being transferred over to Neal Soils to be processed further before being sent to landfill.

SRF Area

The SRF area was visited following the waste transfer area. The kerbing in this area was observed and followed the concrete pad around the site until the area where the 360-degree grabber (MRF area). Untreated waste material was still observed to be outside with areas of green shrub being identified growing on the healthcare material.

Non-Compliance

The permit states that the treatment of non-hazardous waste shall take place ***inside a building***. On the day of the visit, the screening and shredding treatment of the healthcare waste was taking place outside and a significant amount of dust release was observed from this process. Although well within the permit boundary this will most certainly contribute to background PM10/PM2.5 levels.

This is a breach of the environmental permit and consequently a **Category 3** will be scored against Permit Condition 2.1.1.

There is a failure to adhere to critical procedures leading to or having the potential to cause an impact to the environment, people or property. As a result, a **Category 3** will be scored against permit condition 1.1.1.

ACTION 2: Please ensure that condition 1.1.1 is complied with and that processing is now being done within the building, please provide evidence of this to NRW by the 5th of August 2024.

Moreover, the following action will be issued:

ACTION 3: Please submit to NRW the Dust Management Plan you hold for site by the 5th of August 2024.

Field 2

The soil processing activity takes place on Field 2. A large stockpile of rubble/C&D waste was observed. This was to be processed further. There was also a small waste pile of tarmac/asphalt waste material seen. Where the binder used within the structure is bitumen only, asphalt waste is usually non-hazardous. However, where the binding agents contain coal tar and exceed the relevant hazardous waste threshold, the asphalt waste will be classed as hazardous waste.

ACTION 4: Please confirm the EWC code that is used for this tarmac/asphalt waste and any further information/sampling that proves there are no hazardous material present in the waste by the 5th of August 2024.

There was also a large pile of large historic waste. DDEG acknowledged that they did not know where this waste material has originated from and that it is unknown when this waste was stockpiled on site.



ACTION 5: Please submit to NRW the information you hold on this waste material on Field 2 by the 5th of August 2024.

Field 1

Field 1 was visited next and consisted of three large waste piles that were almost the entire length of the storage pad. (see pictures below). In addition to the above there were stockpiles of plasterboard, waste wood and green waste on the east side of the pad. It was stated from the DDEG that the waste has been on site for approximately 6 months.

ACTION 6: Please can you submit the log of the movements of the waste located on Field 1 from when it has arrived on site, the timeline of the processing of the waste and the expected departure dates of this waste, furthermore the mass balance of current held tonnage by the 5th of August 2024.





As officers walked around the field, intermittent leachate puddles were observed around the base of the waste stockpiles.

This leachate is caused by the waste stockpile breaking down, likely due to the waste being “held” on site, prior to onward transfer.

Questions were raised on the integrity of the concrete pad on Field 1, especially where the leachate puddles were observed it shows that it was eroding the concrete. However, due to the waste stockpiles being in place, no assessment could be made on the condition of the pad under these waste piles.

ACTION 7: Please provide NRW with evidence of surface integrity checks of the concrete underneath the waste stockpiles, and across the concrete structure on Field 1. To include but not limited to depth, wear, ensure proper run off/ drainage fall to the sealed drainage leachate lagoon by the 5th of August 2024.

Upon closer inspections, there was a significant fly presence in these areas. On the day it was said that pesticides used to control the flies which was said to be sprayed on the waste piles. As the waste piles

have been sprayed with the pesticide this waste will need to have representative sampling analysis prior to be moved forward to ensure the correct waste coding has been assigned.

ACTION 8: Please submit to NRW your Pest Management Plan by the 5th of August 2024.





Above picture shows how the standing leachate from the decomposing waste pile has pitted and eroded the concrete pad. This picture was taken after a number of dry days. The waste stockpiles were seen to have the temperature probes in place, when the visit to the security office was done, works were being carried out and the CCTV and InfraRed (IR) was unable to be brought up on screen.

ACTION 9: Please submit to NRW screenshots of the temperature probes log for the time of the visit (13th June 2024 between 10am and 2pm) including the evidence of the use of IR CCTV by the 5th of August 2024.

There was a large stockpile of green waste near the entrance/exit to the Field 1, questions were made on the day regarding the intended destination of this waste?

ACTION 10: Can you confirm to NRW, where this green waste is sent for disposal/recovery by the 5th of August 2024

Surface water drainage

All of the surface water drainage on site runs to a culvert just in front of the transfer station and then is discharged to a ditch. NRW Officers

were told that the ditches are clay lined and are totally sealed so to act formally as “Sealed Drainage” as required throughout your permit. Officers asked for leachate tankering documentation, but DDEG stated that the drainage ditch never needs to be discharged via SW09 point or tankered off site as it is used on site as suppression/dampening. All the surface water drainage on site, including the leachate material on field 1, runs to a culvert just in front of the transfer station and then is discharged to a purpose-built ditch. To get a better view of the ditch, officers walked along the road to the discharge point and when stood adjacent to the surface water ditch a strong rotten egg like odour was noticed. Upon looking through a hole in the wooden fence the surface water ditch appeared black in colour (pictured below). The leachate is used to dampen down the dust on the roads and to spray on waste piles, which may be adding to the pest issue and may cause an odour issue if the leachate becomes highly concentrated. There was a very strong noxious egg/sulphur smell noted alongside the leachate ditch.

Permit condition 3.2.3 states that “All liquids in containers, whose emission to water or land could cause pollution, shall be provided with secondary containment, unless the operator has used other appropriate measures to prevent or where that is not practicable, to minimise, leakage and spillage from the primary container”.



Action 11: Take representative samples of the liquid held in ditch, as pictured above and submit the independent analysis to NRW. Additionally, can you provide to NRW an assessment on how the storage ditches meets the requirements of Ciria736.

This should be submitted to NRW by the **2nd of September 2024**.

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.