

Compliance Assessment Report CAR_NRW0044729

Permit being assessed: UP3831ES.

For: ALYN WORKS, **held by:** T S Resins Limited

At: Alyn Works Denbigh Road , MOLD, Flintshire, CH7 1BT.

Type of assessment: Site Inspection,

Reason: Routine.

On: 22/05/2024 - 06/06/2024 between 12:00 and 15:15.

Parts of permit assessed: See below.

NRW Lead Officer: Philip Harper, accompanied by Amy Chisnell, Rebecca Harwood.

Report sent to: Technical Manager, Technical Manager, on 26/07/2024.

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

Part of permitted activity assessed (compliance criteria)	Assessment result	Permit condition
IR1A - Installations - Management - General Management	C3 Minor	1.1.1a
IR2A - Installations - Operations - Permitted activities	Assessed (A)	
IR2B - Installations - Operations - The site	Assessed (A)	

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

Total non-compliances recorded	Total non-compliance score
1	4

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	See actions in main text	30/08/2024

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.

You are non-compliant with your permit.

At this time, we are issuing you with a warning for the non-compliance recorded above. Warnings may influence future enforcement response for continued or further non-compliance.

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 covers observations made at TS Resins on the 22nd May and 5th June 2024 and discusses a schedule 5 notification which was received from the operator on the 6th June 2024.

Site Drain Pumps.

During a site inspection at Synthite Ltd on the 22nd May 2024, which was undertaken by NRW officers Phil Harper and Amy Chisnell, it was noted that the lower areas of the site were flooded with surface water. The area was flooded to an extent that containment had almost been breached.

Surface water in this location is managed via a submersible pump which transfers the water into the site lagoons prior to treatment. Through discussion with the site manager for Synthite, it was established that the submersible pump is an asset of TS Resins.

The site manager for TS Resins was informed of the observations as officers left the site.

A email was received from the site manager for TS Resins on the afternoon of the 22nd May 2024, which provided the following information;

“Following our discussion earlier the submersible pump was lifted and put back into position. We also fixed a kink in the pipe which has helped matters.”

Standard operating procedure UTI-10- Transfer Effluent to Synthite confirms that the site drain pump is the responsibility of TS Resins.

The procedure also states that routine maintenance work requests is set at a bi-monthly routine for Site Drain Pumps. Evidence was provided to show that preventative maintenance had been scheduled for the site drain pumps for the 7th June 2024.

Recent analysis has shown that surface water at the site can be contaminated to an extent which would cause pollution in contact with the ground and surface waters. As such the operation of the site drain pumps should be monitored on a regular basis with any issues being rectified as soon as possible.

The quantity of standing water at the site indicates that site checks are not being completed inline with a suitable management system.

A category 3 score has been applied against permit condition 1.1.1a under subheading 1A General Management.

Action 1: Submit records that demonstrate that the preventative maintenance of the site pumps has been completed bi-monthly in accordance with UTI-10 from the 1st January 2024 by the 31st July 2024.

Action 2: Review any update any relevant sections of the environmental management system by the 30th August 2024.

Domestic Sump.

On the 5th June 2024 a joint site visit was undertaken by NRW officers Phil Harper and Rebecca Harwood, Senior Industry and Waste Regulation and Dwr Cymru officers Raymond Jones, Trade Effluent Officer and Louise Gaskin, Science Manager.

The visit was undertaken following reports of high formaldehyde levels in the domestic sewer following the fire on the 30th April 2024.

Domestic facilities are located within the TS Resins production area which is located on the main site. Waste water from these facilities passes in a macerator and into a sump prior to being pumped to the sites main domestic well.

The sump is covered by a metal cover, there are no internal seals or constructions to prevent the ingress of contaminated surface waters into the sewerage system. At the time of the inspection it was observed that an IBC containing a urea solution had been placed on top of the cover.

The site drainage is configured such that the domestic waste is isolated from surface waters and trade effluent.

The positioning of containers which contain liquid on top of the cover is bad practice.

Further investigation is ongoing to determine whether fire water entered the domestic sump at TS Resins during the Synthite fire on the 30th April 2024.

No score has been applied on this occasion.

Action 3: Undertake a risk assessment concerning containment at the domestic sump at TS Resins and submit a report detailing the findings to NRW by the 2nd August 2024.

Refrigeration leak.

On the 6th June 2024, NRW received the following notification from the operator;

"We had an incident on site on Tuesday, where one of our fitters was using a cherry picker in the vicinity of our chiller unit. He manoeuvred the vehicle in such a way that the chiller was in his blind spot and managed to crush a small part of the unit, resulting in a release of the refrigerant gas. The gas in question is R-407C (MSDS is attached), and we believe that there was a maximum of 7kg released.

We are unsure of where this material would sit with regards to reporting, as it is not a permitted species. Please could you advise us of any notifications or forms that need to be completed?

For information, the manufacturers of the chiller were on site yesterday fixing the unit, replenishing the refrigerant, and testing for any leaks."

The release of refrigerant can be regarded as being an unauthorised point source emission to air from the site, however, there have been no reports of adverse effects of the release and the operator has notified in accordance with its environmental permit.

Action 4: The operator is advised the procedures around the manoeuvring of vehicles around the site, in particular around critical plant and equipment should be reviewed and updated accordingly.

Kind Regards

Phil Harper

Senior Industry and Waste Regulation Officer NE

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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.