

Compliance Assessment Report CAR_NRW0044693

Permit being assessed: BT4885IT.

For: Shotton Paper Mill EPR/BT4885IT, **held by:** Shotton Mill Limited

At: WEIGHBRIDGE ROAD SHOTTON , DEESIDE, DEESIDE, CLWYD, CH5 2LL.

Type of assessment: Site Inspection,

Reason: Routine.

On: 20/06/2024 between 10:00 and 13:20.

Parts of permit assessed: Various.

NRW Lead Officer: Stuart Ross.

Report sent to: Technical / Environmental Manager, Technical / Environmental Manager, on 11/07/2024.

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

Part of permitted activity assessed (compliance criteria)	Assessment result	Permit condition
IR2A - Installations - Operations - Permitted activities	Assessed (A)	
IR3B - Installations - Emissions and monitoring - Emissions of substances not controlled by emission limits	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 follows a routine site inspection and meeting with the operator. Also present were SLR Consulting who are acting on behalf of Shotton Papermill Ltd to prepare a substantial permit variation application for the installation.

Permit Variation Application - Update

The operator reports that a variation to regularise the changes at the installation including the new container board line, tissue mill, combined heat and power plant, AD plant and others, continues to be prepared by SLR.

The operator anticipates that the application will be submitted to NRW 'summer' 2024. Issues relating to the secondary containment of the effluent treatment plant and obtaining expected emission parameters for the CHP plant are the main areas to be progressed.

NRW continues to stress that the application should be made at the earliest opportunity given the increasing time delay (work queue) for applications to be determined by NRW and the operator's expectations to commence operation of new activities in 2025. Numerous activities at the site cannot operate legally until the permit variation application is determined and a varied permit issued.

The operator has been provided with advice and guidance as to the permitting implications and options if the the existing MRRF was to be operated by a third party.

Boiler 7 Start Up and Shut Down Definitions

Further to Compliance Assessment Report CAR_NRW0044196 the operator is to produce start up and shut down definitions for boiler 7. SLR will also produce an 'Other than Normal Operating Conditions (OTNOC) management plan which will be required when boiler 7 is subject to the Waste Incineration BREF review.

Subsequent to the site inspection it was agreed that the time scales for the actions detailed in the above compliance assessment report are extended to 28/07/2024.

Boiler 7 Fly Ash End of Waste Status

Subject to ongoing correspondence - further queries have been raised by NRW waste regulation colleagues.

Action 1 - Please supply copies of appendices 1-10 as detailed in document '*End of Waste Submission PSA for Use in Tarmac Block Manufacture*'. Please do so by 28/07/24.

Waste Returns

As discussed during the site inspection, NRW has recently performed annual quality

assurance of EPR waste returns and identified an anomaly with the B03 returns submitted by Shotton Paper Mill

The Q3 (July-Sept 23) & Q4 (Oct-Dec 23) waste returns for the B03 (wood incineration) activities have identical tonnages on the waste received information for each quarter, including for each individual row.

Also the waste removed tonnages were slightly different suggesting that the operator may have used their Q3 return to update Q4 and not updated the waste received information correctly for this period.

Subsequent to the inspection the operator reviewed their records and identified that the initial data submitted for Q4 contained waste return data for Q3 and this was due to a previous version of the excel file being attached to the e-mail in error.

The operator reports that additional checks will be conducted in the future to ensure the updated files are attached and submitted.

Management of Concrete Wash Water

The management of concrete wash water was discussed and viewed during the inspection. Wash water arising from the onsite batching plant (and associated mixer lorries) is emptied into lined skips and waste water tankered off site for disposal.

Mixer vehicles originating from off site are responsible for managing their own waste water off site.

On site audits are performed to ensure the concrete wash water is being managed in accordance with the requirements as set out in the Construction Environmental Management Plan.

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.