

## Compliance Assessment Report CAR\_NRW0045357

**Permit being assessed:** AF4029101

For: CRAIG YR HESG QUARRY BERW ROAD PON, held by HANSON AGGREGATES  
At: CRAIG YR HESG QUARRY BERW ROAD, BERW ROAD PONTYPRIDD ,,  
PONTYPRIDD ,, PONTYPRIDD ,, ,,

**Type of assessment carried out:** Site Inspection, Reason: Routine.

On 27/09/2024, between 13:00 and 14:30.

Parts of permit assessed: All

**NRW Lead Officer:** Ceri Malone, accompanied by: Paul Latham.

**Report sent to:** Lewis Jenkins, Unit Manager, on 08/10/2024.

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

| Part of permitted activity assessed (criteria)                        | Assessment result | Permit condition   |
|---|-------------------|--|
| WQ-A1 - Water Quality - Management - General management               | Assessed (A)      |  |
| WQ-B1 - Water Quality - Operations - Permitted activities             | Assessed (A)      |  |
| WQ-B2 - Water Quality - Operations - The site                         | C3 Minor          | 2.2.1 - The activities shall not extend beyond the site, being the land shown edged in green and the discharges shall be made at the points marked on the site plan at schedule 7 to this permit and as listed in table S3.2 (discharge points). |
| WQ-B3 - Water Quality - Operations - Operating techniques             | Assessed (A)      |  |
| WQ-C1 - Water Quality - Emissions and monitoring - Emissions to water | Assessed (A)      |  |
| WQ-D1 - Water Quality - Information - Records                         | Assessed (A)      |  |
| WQ-D3 - Water Quality - Information - Notifications                   | C4 No impact      | 4.3.3 - Natural Resources Wales shall be notified within 14 days of the occurrence of the following matters, except where such disclosure is prohibited  |

| Part of permitted activity assessed (criteria) | Assessment result | Permit condition   |
|--|-------------------|--|
|  |                   | by Stock Exchange rules: Where the operator is a registered company: (a) any change in the operator's trading name, registered name or registered office address |

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

## 2. What action is required?

| Criteria | Action needed   | Complete by |
|----------|---|-------------|
| WQ-B2    | Establish the discharge locations to the Taff for trade effluent and storm discharges. Provide evidence that they match those specified in S3.2 (discharge points) of the permit. | 07/01/2025  |
| WQ-D3    | Apply to transfer the permit to the correct operators, Heidelberg Materials.  | 07/11/2024  |

Action 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.

**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

### Site Report

**Settlement lagoons serving Craig yr Hesg Quarry Permit number AF4029101**

**13:00**

A compliance visit for the permit was undertaken on 27/09/2024. Two Natural Resources Wales environment officers were present along with the Unit Manager for the site, Heidelberg Materials UK. Two Liquid Control Systems Engineers were also present for part of the visit. The weather was clear at the time of the visit with heavy rainfall the day prior.

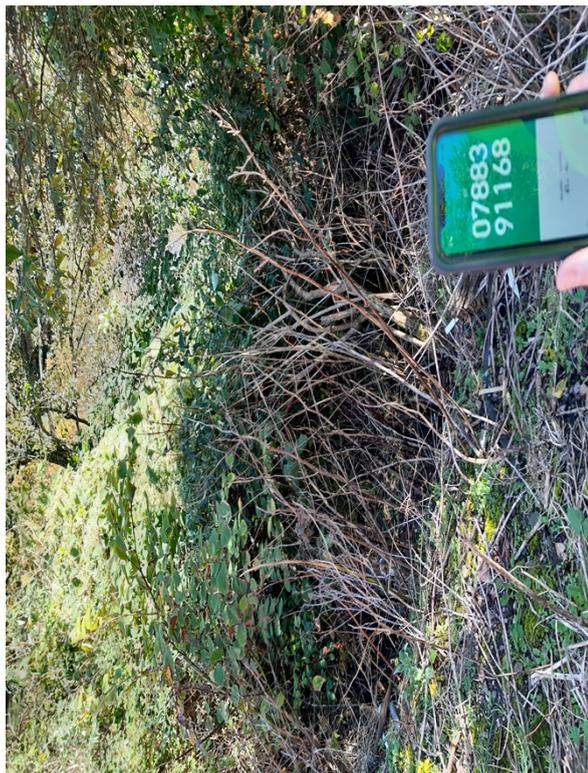
The trade effluent from the site consists of quarry drainage and site runoff. Two attenuation ponds feed six settlement lagoons at the site with the additional use of flocculant. Flocculant storage at the site is kept away from the lagoons in a locked container. The lagoons were partially full due to the rainfall the day prior but still had capacity. The trade effluent was visibly clearer as it was progressing through the settlement lagoons. A sample was taken from the monitoring point which was signposted and at the location specified in S3.3 of the permit (photograph 1). Sample results obtained were within the specified limits on the permit - S3.1.

| Sample Date | Time Sampled | Appearance | PH   | Volume (ml) | Suspended Solids (mg/l) | Pass / Fail |
|-------------|--------------|------------|------|-------------|-------------------------|-------------|
| 27/09/2024  | 14:10        | Clear      | 7.65 | 1000        | 25                      | Pass        |



*Photograph 1: Sample Monitoring Location*

Attending the reported discharge location to the Taff with the Unit Manager the outfall was not visible due to overgrowth. Both the treated effluent and storm overflow are to discharge to the Taff at ST 07890 91165 and ST 07886 91168 respectively (photograph 2). The Unit Manager explained that they had not previously confirmed the location of the discharge.



Photograph 2: Permitted Discharge Location

The Unit Manager stated that the operators of the quarry were now Heidelberg Materials not Hanson as stated on the permit. On 01/10/2024 the Unit Manager sent documentation of the management and maintenance records which are being kept on site. All documentation was up to date including checks for daily/weekly/monthly maintenance required on site. The following sampling results for the last 5 months were also provided:

| Sample Date | Time Sampled | Appearance | PH  | Volume (ml) | Suspended Solids (mg/l) | Pass / Fail |
|-------------|--------------|------------|-----|-------------|-------------------------|-------------|
| 07/05/2024  | 07:00        | Clear      | 7   | 250         | 6                       | Pass        |
| 11/06/2024  | 12:00        | Clear      | 7.2 | 250         | 62                      | Pass        |

**Left Site 14:30**

**Breaches of permit condition:**

**The Site: 2.2.1** - We were unable to check the discharge locations for the site due to overgrowth at the specified NGR.

**Notifications: 4.3.3** - NRW were not notified of the change of operator previously.

**Action required by dates specified:**



## 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 to 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   |
|----------------------------|---|
| C1 Major                   | Potential to have a major, serious, persistent and/or extensive impact or effect on the environment, people and/or property |
| C2 Significant             | Potential to have a significant impact or effect on the environment, people and/or property                                 |
| C3 Minor                   | Potential to have a minor or minimal impact or effect on the environment, people and/or property                            |
| C4 No environmental impact | Non-compliance at a regulated site that cannot foreseeably have any impact on the environment, people and/or property       |

### If your assessment result in Section 1 is suspended, what does this mean?

In line with our guidance, we may suspend non-compliance for up to six months to allow time for remedial action to be taken. These will be re-instated if the action is not completed.

**Full list of water quality action criteria (used in section 1 and 2):****WQ A: Management**

- WQ-A1 General management

**WQ B: Operations**

- WQ-B1 Permitted activities
- WQ-B2 The site
- WQ-B3 Operating techniques
- WQ-B4 Improvement programme
- WQ-B5 Pre-operational conditions

**WQ C: Emissions and monitoring**

- WQ-C1 Emissions to water
- WQ-C2 Emissions to land
- WQ-C3 Emissions of substances not controlled by emission limits
- WQ-C4 Installation of monitoring boreholes

**WQ D: Information**

- WQ-D1 Records
- WQ-D2 Reporting
- WQ-D3 Notifications

**Enforcement response**

Any permit condition non-compliance 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 20 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 – 18:00), or email [enquiries@naturalresourceswales.gov.uk](mailto: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](mailto: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.