

Compliance Assessment Report CAR_NRW0045864

Permit being assessed: ZP3298FV.

For: Transfer Station, held by Carmarthen Recycling & Environmental Services Ltd

At: Johnstown, Carmarthen, Carmarthenshire, SA31 3RB.

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

On 10/12/2024 between 13:15 and 15:00.

Parts of permit assessed: Waste acceptance and storage, site drainage and infrastructure

NRW Lead Officer: David Ellar, accompanied by Hugh Martin.

Report sent to: Julian Jones, Director on 19/12/2024.

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

Part of permitted activity assessed (criteria)	Assessment result	Permit condition
W1A - Waste - Management - General management	Assessed (A)	
W2E - Waste - Operations - Waste acceptance	C3 Minor	1.1.2
W3A - Waste - Emissions and monitoring - Emissions to water, air or land	Assessed (A)	
W3C - Waste - Emissions and monitoring - Odour	Assessed (A)	
W3D - Waste - Emissions and monitoring - Noise and vibration	Assessed (A)	

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

Total number of 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
W2E	Remove gypsum waste from site, do not accept gypsum waste at your site until you are permitted to do so.	31/03/2025

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.

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

A routine site inspection was undertaken on Tuesday 12 December 2024 to assess compliance against Permit No: ZP3298FV held by Carmarthen Recycling & Environmental Services Ltd. Present at the time of the inspection were: David Ellar and Hugh Martin (Natural Resources Wales) and Jenny Minet (Carmarthenshire Recycling & Environmental Services Ltd).

Permit Breaches:

W2E – Waste Acceptance – Cat 3; Permit Condition 1.1.2 Table 1.2

You have been given this category 3 breach under the above condition because during our inspection it was observed that gypsum waste (plasterboard and loose plaster) was observed on site. Table 1.2 of your permit lists the waste types that are permitted to be accepted at your site, gypsum waste (EWC 170802) is not listed in the table.

Action: Remove gypsum waste from site, do not accept gypsum waste at your site until you are permitted to do so.

This issue has also been identified at previous inspections and advice on permit variation has been given. Further comment regarding this matter is contained below in the sections titled 'Materials Acceptance & Waste Storage' and 'Environmental Permit Variation'.

Previous inspection

No breaches were identified during our previous inspection on the 27 February 2024 however information on waste storage & acceptance and permit variation was given. Please see Compliance Assessment Report CAR_NRW0043624 for more detail.

General observations

The weather was wet with significant rainfall occurring over the past few days. NRW officers were unaccompanied around site but met with TCM Jenny Minet before and after the site inspection where issues identified in this CAR were discussed. Julian Jones was not present on site during the visit.

Materials Acceptance & Waste Storage

Plasterboard and other gypsum waste was observed on site during the inspection, your Environmental Permit does not allow for the acceptance of this waste. This issue has been identified in previous visits and recorded as a breach of permit. You must amend your Environmental Permit to accept this waste.

A pile of 'hardcore' type construction and demolition waste was seen in a pile against the side wall of the transfer station building, this waste storage practice is noted in the site EMS and is permitted. Some gypsum waste had been recently deposited on to the pile. This must be cleared from the pile as a priority and removed from site with the other gypsum waste mentioned in the previous paragraph.

Photographs of gypsum waste observed on site:



All other wastes appeared to conform with the list of acceptable wastes as described in the Environmental Permit.

All other wastes were clearly separated, segregated and stored in compliance with the Environmental Permit.

Site Drainage & Infrastructure

The inspection on took place during a period of consistent heavy rain. Despite the recent high volume of rain, there was no significant ponding or pooling of water on site. Current infrastructure appeared to maintained to a sufficient standard as to not have an impact on the local amenity (e.g. there was no surface water run-off escaping site)

Environmental Permit Variation

Your Environmental Permit (reference EPR/ZP3298FV) is an old style Waste Management Licence. Over the years, there have been several occasions where ambiguity has arisen over waste codes etc. partially caused by interpretation of the old style Waste Management Licence in view of developments in industry (e.g. introduction of EWC Codes into permits etc.).

It is recommended that you review your Waste Management Licence. An option you have would be to submit a Minor Technical Variation to vary the licence to a Standard Rules Permit for a Household, Commercial and Industrial Waste Transfer Station (with building). Further information regarding the Standard Rules Permits can be found on our website: <https://naturalresourceswales.gov.uk/permits-and-permissions/waste-permitting/standard-rules-and-risk-assessments-for-waste/?lang=en>

Alternatively, you may wish to explore another type of variation, information on which can also be found on our website: <https://naturalresourceswales.gov.uk/permits-and-permissions/waste-permitting/?lang=en>

Thank you for your time during our visit.

End of report.

In this document 'Natural Resources Wales' means the Natural Resources Body for Wales established by Article 3 of the Natural Resources Body for Wales (Establishment) order 2012.

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.

What are suspended scores?

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 and Waste action criteria (used in section 1 and 2):

A: Permitted activities

- A1 Specified by permit

B: Infrastructure

- B1 Infrastructure – Engineering for prevention and control of emissions
- B2 Infrastructure – Closure and decommissioning
- B3 Infrastructure – Site drainage engineering (clean and foul)
- B4 Infrastructure – Containment of stored materials
- B5 Infrastructure – Plant and equipment

C: General management

- C1 General management – Staff competency/training
- C2 General management – Management system and operating procedures
- C3 General management – Materials acceptance
- C4 General management – Storage, handling, labelling and segregation

D: Incident management

- D1 Incident management – Site security
- D2 Incident management – Accidents, emergency and incident planning

E: Emissions

- E1 Emissions – Air
- E2 Emissions – Land and groundwater
- E3 Emissions – Surface water
- E4 Emissions – Sewer
- E5 Emissions – Waste

F: Amenity

- F1 Amenity – Odour
- F2 Amenity – Noise
- F3 Amenity – Dust/fibres/particulates and litter
- F4 Amenity – Pests/birds and scavengers
- F5 Amenity – Deposits on road

G: Monitoring and records, maintenance and reporting

- G1 Monitoring and records, maintenance and reporting – Monitoring of emissions and environment
- G2 Monitoring and records, maintenance and reporting – Records of activity, site diary/journal/events
- G3 Monitoring and records, maintenance and reporting – Maintenance records
- G4 Monitoring and records, maintenance and reporting – Reporting and notification to Natural Resources Wales

H: Resources efficiency

- H1 Resource efficiency – Efficient use of raw materials
- H2 Resource efficiency – Energy efficiency

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 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.