

Compliance Assessment Report CAR_NRW0045857

Permit being assessed: FB3190HP

For: CARDIFF AIRPORT, held by CARDIFF INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT LIMITED

At: RHOOSE, VALE OF GLAMORGAN, SOUTH EAST WALES, ., CF62 3BD.

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

On 18/12/2024, between 10:00 and 12:30.

Parts of permit assessed: All

NRW Lead Officer: Harry Warburton, accompanied by: Hannah Jenkins.

Report sent to: James Morris, QSHE manager, on 23/01/2025.

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-C3 - Water Quality - Emissions and monitoring - Emissions of substances not controlled by emission limits	C3 Minor	3.2.3
WQ-D1 - Water Quality - Information - Records	Assessed (A)	

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

2. What action is required?

Criteria	Action needed	Complete by
WQ-C3	Move the storage containers so that are within the effective bunded area should a spill take place.	24/02/2025

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.

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

Compliance inspection undertaken by Environment Officer Harry Warburton and Senior Environment Officer Hannah Jenkins, accompanied by the QSHE officers at Cardiff airport for permit FB3190HP. The weather at the time was dry with strong winds.

The areas of the airport inspected were the car park interceptor, the coffer dam, the reed bed, southside interceptor and the BP interceptor. The interceptors were emptied and serviced about a month prior to the inspection, this is undertaken once yearly.

Since the previous visit the site now has a written management system as mentioned in permit condition 1.1.

Car park interceptor:

We first inspected the car park interceptor. There was quite a bit of litter in the water in the chambers due to the grates having gaps in them, it was mentioned that new covers were being looking in to to prevent this occurring. It was noted that there is no penstock for the outfall, only to the final chamber. The penstock would be better placed at the outfall should there be a pollutant enter the interceptor so that it can be closed off from the environment. This is the same with the sampling point, the sampling location is prior to the final chamber and not prior to the outfall weir, this should be moved so that more representative samples can be taken.

Recommendations

- Move the penstock from the final tank to the outfall location.
- Move the sample point to the area after the final tank near the outfall weir.

Coffer dam:

The coffer dam was inspected and had a layer of biofilm, this is likely due to slow flows. The vegetation in the coffer dam outfall area was showing signs of ochre growth, this may be due to rusted pipes prior to the coffer dam outlet and should be investigated. There is an concrete block and inspection chamber prior to the outfall area, this doesn't appear to have been opened for access before and may show some of the rusted infrastructure.



Recommendations

- Investigate the drainage infrastructure to the cofferdam for signs of rust causing the ochre growth.

- Lift and gain access to the inspection chamber prior to the outfall.

Southside interceptor

This interceptor outfalls into drainage within a housing estate in Rhose. This looks clear and had no issues.

Recommendations

None

Reed bed

The reed bed services the firefighting area and receives run off including dilute firefighting foam used for training. This area enters a storage tank which then flows into the reed bed, which then discharges to the ground via infiltration. The channel from the settlement tank to the reed bed had a fair build up of sediment which would restrict the flow. The inlet to the reed bed also had a build up of sediment which had grass growing on it, as well the sediment had risen to obstruct some of the inlet pipe. The reeds appeared in good health. The outlet chamber from the reed was quite severely rusted.



Recommendations

- Clear the sediment from the channel between the storage tank and the reed bed.
- Clear the sediment at the start of the reed bed around the inlet outfall.
- Remove the rusted infrastructure from the outlet pipes and chamber so that this does not leech in to the soil from the discharge.

BP interceptor

This interceptor services the refuelling yard. The penstock to the chambers was almost fully closed which is limiting the volume of water entering the interceptor. This inlet channel also had a bypass overflow which did not have a penstock to prevent the water bypassing the

entire interceptor before discharge, this is concerning especially when the penstock to the interceptor was nearly closed, as well as this being the interceptor that would receive a spill from the refuelling yard.

Recommendations

- Open the penstock to the interceptor chambers.
- Install a penstock for the bypass overflow to prevent any polluting matter to being able to reach the environment by bypassing the interceptor.

Other

In the firefighting area there are storage containers that are elevated above the bunded area. This is practically nullifying the bund as if the container blew over, or a pipe split etc then the contained substance would spill outside of the bunded area and potentially lead to a pollution incident.



Action

- Move the storage containers so that are within the effective bunded area should a spill take place.

End of report.

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 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 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.