

## Compliance Assessment Report CAR\_NRW0046187

**Permit being assessed:** MB3333DG.

**For:** The Old Forge, **held by:** Jonathan Mark Rees

**At:** The Old Forge, Monastery Road, Neath Abbey, Neath, West Glamorgan, SA10 7DW.

**Type of assessment:** Site Inspection,

**Reason:** Routine.

**On:** 31/01/2025 between 09:00 and 10:00.

**Parts of permit assessed:** W1, W2.

**NRW Lead Officer:** David Morgan.

**Report sent to:** Jonathan Rees, Operator, on 07/02/2025.

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

Part of permitted activity assessed (compliance criteria)	Assessment result	Permit condition
W1A - Waste - Management - General management	Assessed (A)	
W2A - Waste - Operations - Permitted activities	Assessed (A)	
W2C - Waste - Operations - Operating techniques	Assessed (A)	
W2E - Waste - Operations - Waste acceptance	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

A routine site inspection was undertaken on Friday 31st January 2025. It was originally intended that this inspection take place on Friday 6th December 2024, however, owing to other high risk issues in the South West Area, this inspection was rearranged for Friday 31st January 2025.

The inspection undertaken on 31st January 2025 was the first regulatory inspection at the site by Natural Resources Wales since 19th July 2024 (Compliance Assessment Report reference: CAR\_NRW0044809).

#### **Background**

In recent years, several non-compliances have been recorded on site. These non-compliances have been documented in Compliance Assessment Reports. Non-compliances have been recorded in the past for aspects such as non-compliant infrastructure and/or non-compliant working practices (namely storing contaminated waste on hardstanding ground).

It is noted improvements to operations have been made and at the time of the last inspection, on 19th July 2024, operations were assessed as compliant with the Environmental Permit.

#### **Site Inspection**

Following the inspection of Friday 31st January 2025, no non-compliances with the Environmental Permit were recorded. During the inspection, the following observations were made:

#### **Waste Storage & Infrastructure**

\* Improvements in waste storage have been maintained. Scrap metal waste is now largely stored in roll-on-roll-off skips on hardstanding ground.

\* Loose scrap metal waste that was stored on hardstanding was visually free from contamination. Loose scrap metal in these areas did not appear to be contaminated with oils/greases etc.

\* Generally, waste storage areas were free from signs of leaks/spillages and there was no strong odour of oil as has previously been noticed on site

\* The site boundary is accessible for inspection (except for the rear/canal side)

\* The inspection chamber for the underground sump was clear from debris and accessible at the time of the inspection

\* The impermeable concrete surface appeared to be in good condition at the time of the inspection

### **Site Layout**

While on site we discussed potentially rearranging waste storage and the layout of the site. We discussed potentially moving uncontaminated waste, plant and equipment off the concrete pad and utilising this area for treatment and storage.

Also, we discussed the possibility of lowering the volume of waste stored on site at any one time. This would help improve logistics on site and provide further workable areas that can act as quarantine areas in the event of a fire incident.

### **Fire Prevention and Mitigation Plan (FPMP)**

Following an inspection of the site, we discussed the site Fire Prevention & Mitigation Plan. Previous inspections have focussed on waste storage and infrastructure which are now largely compliant.

It was noted that you intend to review and update the Fire Prevention and Mitigation Plan for the site.

**Please submit an updated version of this plan to Natural Resources Wales by Friday 28th March 2025.**

**You must have a Fire Prevention and Mitigation Plan that complies with current guidance.**

### **Summary**

On Friday 31st January 2025, operations on site were assessed as compliant. Improvements to waste storage practices and infrastructure have been maintained.

You must submit an updated FPMP by Friday 28th March 2025, following which, Natural Resources Wales will review the plan and provide you with any relevant feedback.

As mentioned previously, enforcement action regarding non-compliances recorded in previous inspections (dates below) is pending.

\* 08/03/2024 (Compliance Assessment Report ref: NRW0043753) - Enforcement Action Pending

\* 29/06/2023 (Compliance Assessment Report ref: NRW0042083) - Enforcement Action Pending

\* 06/03/2023 (Compliance Assessment Report ref: NRW0041496) - Enforcement Action Pending

Thank you for your time during the inspection.

**END OF REPORT**

***Any compliance criteria not highlighted in the above summary should be considered as not assessed. In this document 'Natural Resources Wales' means the Natural Resources Body for Wales established by Article 3 of the Natural Resource Body for Wales (Establishment) Order 2012. You should note that the Natural Resources Body for Wales has been formed by bringing together the Countryside Council for Wales, Forestry Commission Wales and Environment Agency Wales. The Natural Resources Body for Wales has been empowered to exercise Welsh devolved functions since 1 st April 2013 and has, generally, taken over the responsibilities of the Countryside Council for Wales, the Forestry Commissioners and the Environment Agency for Wales.***

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 Waste compliance criteria** (used in section 1 and 2):

**1. Management**

- W1A – General management
- W1B – Energy Efficiency (MCP/SG facilities only)
- W1C – Avoidance, recovery and disposal of wastes produced by the activities

**2. Operations**

- W2A – Permitted activities
- W2B – Waste recovery plan
- W2C – Operating techniques
- W2D – The site
- W2E – Waste acceptance
- W2F – Technical requirements
- W2G – Improvement programme
- W2H – Pre-operational conditions

**3. Emission and Monitoring**

- W3A – Emissions to water, air or land
- W3B – Emissions of substances not controlled by emission limits
- W3C – Odour
- W3D – Noise and vibration
- W3E – Monitoring
- W3F – Pests
- W3G – Fire

**4. Information**

- W4A – Records
- W4B – Reporting
- W4C – 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](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.