

Compliance Assessment Report CAR_NRW0046251

Permit being assessed: VP3736EF.

For: Newport Steam Reforming Plant, **held by:** The BOC Group Limited

At: Steam Reforming Plant Corporation Road , Newport , NP19 4XF.

Type of assessment: Check Monitoring/Sampling,

Reason: Routine.

On: 31/12/2024.

Parts of permit assessed: 4.2 Reporting.

NRW Lead Officer: Luke Burton.

Report sent to: Environment & Sustainability Manager, Environment & Sustainability Manager, on 14/02/2025.

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

Part of permitted activity assessed (compliance criteria)	Assessment result	Permit condition
IR4B - Installations - Information - Reporting	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 (CAR) has been produced in response to the submission of annual performance and monitoring report(s) required by the following environmental permit conditions.

Condition 4.2.2 of the environmental permit states:

A report or reports on the performance of the activities over the previous year shall be submitted to Natural Resources Wales by 31 January (or other date agreed in writing by Natural Resources Wales) each year. The report(s) shall include as a minimum:

- (a) a review of the results of the monitoring and assessment carried out in accordance with the permit including an interpretive review of that data;
- (b) the annual production /treatment data set out in schedule 4 table S4.2; and
- (c) the performance parameters set out in schedule 4 table S4.3 using the forms specified in table S4.4 of that schedule.

Table S4.2, S4.3, and S4.4 of Schedule 4 to the environmental permit are partially reproduced below.

Table S4.2: Annual production/treatment

Parameter	Units
Amount of Hydrogen produced	tonnes

Table S4.3 Performance parameters

Parameter	Frequency of assessment	Units
Water usage	Annually	tonnes
Energy usage	Annually	MWh

Table S4.4 Reporting forms

Media/parameter	Reporting format	Date of form
Air	Form air 1 or other form as agreed in writing by Natural Resources Wales	01/04/15
Water usage	Form water usage 1 or other form as agreed in writing by Natural Resources Wales	01/04/15
Energy usage	Form energy 1 or other form as agreed in writing by Natural Resources Wales	01/04/15
Other performance indicators	Form performance 1 or other form as agreed in writing by Natural Resources Wales	01/04/15

Report(s) for condition 4.2.2 were submitted via email on 05/02/2025.

The report(s) submission was not made inside the reporting window but this represents compliance with the permit. This is because reporting was originally submitted on 29

January 2025. It is therefore reasonable to assume that if NRW had responded to the operators query sooner than the 4 February re completeness of records, the operator would have provided the small quantity of missing information without delay - before the 31 January .

The report(s) submitted include the parameters specified in schedule 4 table S4.2 and S4.3 which represents compliance with the permit.

The report(s) submitted are for the reporting periods specified in schedule 4 table S4.2 and S4.3 which represents compliance with the permit.

The report(s) have been submitted using the forms specified in schedule 4 table S4.4 which represents compliance with the permit.

The monitoring report(s) submitted include an interpretive review and assessment as required by condition 4.2.2 (a) which represents compliance with the permit.

Condition 4.2.3 of the environmental permit states:

Within 28 days of the end of the reporting period the operator shall, unless otherwise agreed in writing by Natural Resources Wales, submit reports of the monitoring and assessment carried out in accordance with the conditions of this permit, as follows:

- (a) in respect of the parameters and emission points specified in schedule 4 table S4.1;
- (b) for the reporting periods specified in schedule 4 table S4.1 and using the forms specified in schedule 4 table S4.4 ; and
- (c) giving the information from such results and assessments as may be required by the forms specified in those tables.

Table S4.1 and S4.4 of Schedule 4 to the environmental permit are partially reproduced below.

Table S4.1 Reporting of monitoring data

Parameter	Emission or monitoring point/reference	Reporting period	Period begins
Emissions to air Parameters as required by condition 3.5.1.	Reformer Furnace Flue Gas Stack, Vent Gas Header Stack	Every 12 months	1 January

Table S4.4 Reporting forms

Media/parameter	Reporting format	Date of form
Air	Form air 1 or other form as agreed in writing by Natural Resources Wales	01/04/15
Water usage	Form water usage 1 or other form as agreed in writing by Natural Resources Wales	01/04/15
Energy usage	Form energy 1 or other form as agreed in writing by Natural Resources Wales	01/04/15
Other performance indicators	Form performance 1 or other form as agreed in writing by Natural Resources Wales	01/04/15

Report(s) for condition 4.2.3 were submitted via email on 29/01/24.

The report(s) submission was made inside the reporting window which represents compliance with the environmental permit.

The report(s) submitted include the parameters specified in schedule 4 table S4.1 which represents compliance with the environmental permit.

The report(s) submitted are for the reporting periods specified in schedule 4 table S4.1 which represents compliance with the environmental permit.

The report(s) have been submitted using the forms specified in schedule 4 table S4.4 which represents compliance with the environmental permit.

The report(s) demonstrate that the point source emission limits specified within Table S3.1 have been met throughout 2024 which represents compliance with the environmental permit.

END.

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.