

Compliance Assessment Report CAR_NRW0046351

Permit being assessed: BL5636IF.

For: Port Talbot Steel Works , **held by:** TARMAC TRADING LIMITED

At: Abbey Works, Margam, Port Talbot, Neath Port Talbot, SA13 2NG.

Type of assessment: Report/Data Review,

Reason: Routine.

On: 31/12/2024.

Parts of permit assessed: 2024 Monitoring Returns .

NRW Lead Officer: Rhodri Morgan.

Report sent to: Joshua Jones, Section Manager, on 19/02/2025.

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

| Part of permitted activity assessed (compliance criteria) | Assessment result | Permit condition |
|---|-------------------|------------------|
| IR1A - Installations - Management - General Management | Assessed (A) | |
| 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

Purpose of Compliance Assessment

The following monitoring returns and reports have been assessed within this Compliance Assessment Report (CAR):

1. Quarter 3 (Q3) July to September 2024 Monitoring Returns
2. Quarter 4 (Q4) October to December 2024 Monitoring Returns
3. 2024 Annual Returns

Compliance Assessment

1. Q3 2024 Monitoring Returns

The Operator submitted the Q3 2024 monitoring returns on the 25th October 2024, which is within the specified reporting window, representing compliance with the permit condition (4.2.2).

The required operational parameters were submitted including Cooling Water pH and Blast Furnace Slag figures. Granulation rates were consistent with previous monitoring periods; with approximately 79.89% of the liquid slag granulated.

No figure was supplied for the Blast Furnace No.5 Granulation Plant due to the Blast Furnace being brought offline on the 4th July 2024.

2. Q4 2024 Monitoring Returns

The Operator submitted the Q4 2024 monitoring returns on the 10th January 2025, which is within the specified reporting window, representing compliance with the permit condition (4.2.2).

Activities at the Site have been impacted by the closure of both Blast Furnaces at Port Talbot Steelworks (EPR/BL7108IM). The granulation plants were not operational throughout the monitoring period; as a result no monitoring returns have been submitted.

The Operator has indicated that they intend to submit a permit variation application, to remove several activities from the EPR Permit.

3. 2024 Annual Report

The operator is required to submit an annual report on the performance of the activities over the previous year by 31 January as per permit condition 4.2.3. Tarmac submitted the 2024 Annual Report on the 10th January 2025; inline with the EPR Permit requirements.

The annual submission consisted of the following documents:

- Form Performance 1 (02/03/16)
- Form Air 1 (02/03/16)
- Form Particulate 1 (02/03/16)

The annual submission contained the required information in accordance with permit condition 4.2.3.

Due to the closure of both Blast Furnaces at Port Talbot Steelworks (EPR/ BL7108IM), the spot extractive sampling which is an annual requirement was not completed.

Note: This CAR report and assessment was undertaken on the 19th February 2025. However, to ensure that any non-compliance scores are attributed to the correct financial year (for billing) the date on CARS system has been altered to 31 December 2024.

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.