

Compliance Assessment Report CAR_NRW0046444

Permit being assessed: KP3235SS.

For: IQE (Europe) Ltd, **held by:** IQE (Europe) Ltd

At: St. Mellons Semiconductor Plant, Pascal Close, St. Mellons, Cardiff, South Wales, CF3 0LW.

Type of assessment: Report/Data Review,

Reason: Routine.

On: 31/12/2024.

Parts of permit assessed: 4.2.2.

NRW Lead Officer: Brigid Armstead.

Report sent to: Andrew Mason, HSE Manager, on 25/02/2025.

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	C4 No impact	4.2.2 Reporting

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

Total non-compliances recorded	Total non-compliance score
1	0.1

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
IR4B	Please ensure that all reporting is submitted to NRW within the timeframes specified by the permit.	31/03/2025

Compliance 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

The purpose of this Compliance Assessment Report (CAR) is to record NRW assessment against IQE (Europe) monitoring returns and annual reports for 2024.

Emission Monitoring

Air Emissions

January to June 2024

Emission Point	Parameter	Emission Limit Value	January to June Results
A1	Ammonia	10mg/m ³	0.14 mg/m ³
A1	Hydrogen Chloride	10mg/m ³	0.08 mg/m ³
A3	Arsine	0.42mg/m ³	0.00145 mg/m ³
A3	Phosphine	0.42mg/m ³	0.0167 mg/m ³
A3	Ammonia	9mg/m ³	0.07 mg/m ³

July to December 2024

Emission Point	Parameter	Emission Limit Value	July to December Results
A1	Ammonia	10mg/m ³	0.29mg/m ³
A1	Hydrogen Chloride	10mg/m ³	0.04mg/m ³
A3	Arsine	0.42mg/m ³	0.0010mg/m ³
A3	Phosphine	0.42mg/m ³	0.0026mg/m ³
A3	Ammonia	9mg/m ³	0.0050mg/m ³

All parameters were well within permitted limits throughout 2024 for IQE Europe.

Energy

The sites primary energy usage in 2024 has increased from 2023.

IQE have commented that the reduction in production quantity has resulted in a negative impact on some of their metrics. The reactors are practically at full energy consumption when in standby. IQE has therefore developed a new state for the reactors dubbed “hibernation” which cuts the gas flow rates and reduces the equipment temperature points. This should result in a noticeable reduction in energy usage for the reactors and will be tracked through 2025 in line with energy management objective targets that have been set.

Water

The site used 1,893m³ of water in 2024. This is a decrease of 4.3% from the previous year.

Waste Disposal & Recovery

Total amount of waste produced in 2024 was 169.1 Tonnes. Of this 161.83 Tonnes was hazardous waste and 7.258 Tonnes was non-hazardous waste. Of the non-haz waste, 4003kg was sent to a waste to energy plant, 2835kg was recycled and 420kg was sent to landfill.

2015	431.6	431.6	0.0016g
2016	414.81	414.81	0.0011g
2017	550.54	550.54	0.0006g
2018	543.41	543.41	0.0006g
2019	391.95	391.95	0.0007g
2020	294.36	294.36	0.0009g
2021	248.61	248.61	0.0008g
2022	194.46	194.46	0.001g
2023	152.01	152.01	0.0012g
2024	169.1	169.1	0.0015g

Report(s) for condition 4.2.2 were submitted via email on 04/02/2025. The report submission was made outside the reporting window which represents non-compliance with the environmental permit.

Late submission of reports is considered a category 4 non compliance under permit condition 4.2.2.

END

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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.