

Compliance Assessment Report CAR_NRW0048108

Permit being assessed: CB3395CX.

For: Ystum Colwyn AD, **held by:** Ystum Colwyn Farms Ltd

At: Ystum Colwyn, Meifod, Powys, SY22 6XT.

Type of assessment: Site Inspection,

Reason: Routine.

On: 15/04/2025 between 09:00 and 17:00.

Parts of permit assessed: See Report.

NRW Lead Officer: Kathryn Bradshaw, accompanied by Carter Shone.

Report sent to: Site Owner, Site Owner, on 01/05/2025.

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

Part of permitted activity assessed (compliance criteria)	Assessment result	Permit condition
IR2B - Installations - Operations - The site	Assessed (A)	
IR2C - Installations - Operations - Operating techniques	Assessed (A)	
IR3A(2) - Installations - Emissions and monitoring - Emissions to air	Assessed (A)	
IR4A - Installations - Information - Records	Assessed (A)	
IR4B - Installations - Information - Reporting	Action only (X)	
IR4B - Installations - Information - Reporting	Action only (X)	

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?

Criteria	Action needed	Complete by
IR4B	Provide the data on digestate exported for Q1-Q4 2024 and Q1 2025 to include the type of material, tonnage, date of export and where the digestate has been exported to.	23/05/2025

Criteria	Action needed	Complete by
IR4B	Provide the report for 2024 on the under and over pressure relief systems and leak detection and repair.	23/05/2025

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

This Compliance Assessment Report (CAR) has been raised in relation to the pre-arranged site inspection on 15th April 2025.

The site owner accompanied us on a tour of the permitted area. The site was clean and tidy with the secondary containment in good condition. A localised transient odour was detected within the bunded area.

We viewed the SCADA system located in the site office which displays current meteorological conditions, digester process, gas production, gas pressure and temperature. The owner is on site every morning to check the site and running of the plant. Any alarms raised from the system go straight to the owners phone to take action. There is a maintenance contract in place to ensure the gas engines and other digester process equipment is all in good working order.

Discussions were held about the importance of the reporting requirements of the permit detailed in Table 4.2. The emission monitoring reports were sent on 28th February 2025. All reported parameters were compliant with the emission limit values (ELV's) detailed in Table 3.1. However the parameter for dust was not measured. The site will follow this up with the monitoring company for the next emissions monitoring.

Data has been provided for all digestate produced in 2024 however it was discussed on site the need for more detail on this as stated in permit condition 4.2.3;

The operator shall keep records of the material exported from the site as non-waste including the type of material, the tonnage of material, the batch number and the date of export. This information shall be reported to NRW within one month of the end of each quarter and the records shall be maintained for at least 2 years.

It was explained to us that the digestate is used on Ystum Colwyn's own farms but this is still classed as exporting from the permitted area.

Action 1

Provide the data on digestate exported for Q1-Q4 2024 and Q1 2025 to include the type of

material, tonnage, date of export and where the digestate has been exported to.

The annual reporting requirements that have not been submitted for 2024 were discussed and the data for the digester and gas production process monitoring has now been provided. However the annual reports for the below are to be requested from the third party contractor who services the plant;

- Under and over pressure relief systems
- Leak detection and repair

Action 2

Provide the report for 2024 on the under and over pressure relief systems and leak detection and repair.

Waste Returns

The waste returns for Q3 and Q4 2024 were reviewed and no issues were identified.

Guidance on varying the permit has been sent separately to this CAR form.

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.