

## Compliance Assessment Report CAR\_NRW0048185

**Permit being assessed:** BW9999IG.

**For:** Chirk Particleboard Factory, **held by:** Kronospan Ltd

**At:** Chirk Particleboard Holyhead Road , Chirk, Wrexham, Clwyd, LL14 5NT.

**Type of assessment:** Site Inspection,

**Reason:** Routine.

**On:** 09/04/2025 between 14:25 and 16:15.

**Parts of permit assessed:** Fugitive Emissions.

**NRW Lead Officer:** Stuart Ross, accompanied by Paul Challender.

**Report sent to:** Chris Emery, Director, on 02/05/2025.

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

Part of permitted activity assessed (compliance criteria)	Assessment result	Permit condition
IR2A - Installations - Operations - Permitted activities	Assessed (A)	
IR3B - Installations - Emissions and monitoring - Emissions of substances not controlled by emission limits	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
IR3B	NRW has not received a response to Action 3 of CAR_NRW0047894 - please provide this by 09/05/25.	09/05/2025

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 following an unannounced site inspection by the Natural Resources Wales (NRW) regulating officers Paul Challender and Stuart Ross.

Prior to visiting Kronospan, NRW Officers viewed the site from the western flank of the site, having walked up the boundary fence line adjacent to the railway. The wind was blowing from the site toward the railway - no dust emissions were observed off site or arising from any process lines at this location.

The RCF receipt area was in the process of receiving deliveries and Officers observed wood dust being generated by the vehicle unloading process.

The NRW Officers entered the site and were accompanied to the log yard by site directors and a member of the Environment Health & Safety Team.

The log yard was generally cleaner than previously observed and wetted to minimise fugitive dust emissions.

**RCF Receipt Area**

The RCF receipt area was visited and again was in the process of receiving deliveries including from a curtain sided trailer. Wood dust was generated during the unloading process and by subsequent loading shovel operations. A mist cannon was in use but was not capable of containing all dust given the size of the stockpile and multiple deliveries. In the opinion of NRW Officers this operation had the potential to give rise to an offsite impact.

It was observed that some of the existing 'rain guns' do not cover the RCF stock pile and it was recommended that these are re-positioned in the short term to dampen the stockpile pending the completion of improvement works.

On 01/05/25 Kronospan confirmed that one of the rain guns to the rear of the RCF stockpile was repositioned onto the log wall and the second requires a new post which is due to be delivered w/c 5th May.

It was clear to Officers that robust control measures must be implemented as required by Action 1 of CAR\_NRW0046536 (due 31/05/25) to prevent and minimise fugitive dust emissions from RFC unloading and handling. The operator is making progress to meet the requirements of this action.

This remains an ongoing compliance matter as detailed in CAR\_NRW0046536, permit compliance will be assessed by NRW following completion of actions detailed therein.

**RCF Shredder**

One mist cannon was in use on the mobile shredder and appeared to be effective in reducing dust emissions from the unit during the weather conditions observed. Longer term measures are to be implemented as required by Action 2 of CAR\_NRW0047894 (due 30/06/25) the operator is making progress to meet the requirements of this action.

**Log Grading Yard**

**Action 1** - NRW has not received a response to Action 3 of CAR\_NRW0047894 - please provide this by 09/05/25.

**Action 3:** *Implement long term suitable dust abatement technologies to appropriately control dust emission from the grading yard. Rereview procedures and train staff for the implemented long term dust abatement. Submit evidence of infrastructure improvements and procedural changes to NRW. Action 3 completion date 18/04/25.*

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](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.