

Compliance Assessment Report CAR_NRW0045042

Permit being assessed: AN0337201

For: Site drainage under storm conditions at Hafod Quarry, held by TARMAC TRADING LIMITED

At: Hafod Quarry, Abercarn, Newbridge, Caerphilly, NP11 5LH.

Type of assessment carried out: Site Inspection, Reason: Incident Response (Incident number: 2409341).

On 14/06/2024, between 15:30 and 15:48.

Parts of permit assessed: All Permit

NRW Lead Officer: Gavin Summerhill.

Report sent to: Site Manager, Site Manager, on 20/05/2025.

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

Part of permitted activity assessed (criteria)	Assessment result	Permit condition
WQ-C1 - Water Quality - Emissions and monitoring - Emissions to water	C2 Significant	1. PERMIT CONDITION 1 – The discharge (a) The discharge shall not contain any poisonous, noxious or polluting matter or solid waste matter. (b) Provided that the discharge hereby consented is made in accordance with the following conditions of the consent, such discharge shall not be taken to be in breach of condition (a) above by reason of containing substances or having properties identified in and controlled by these conditions

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

2. What action is required?

Criteria	Action needed	Complete by
WQ-C1	Continue improvements on site to bring back the permit bring into compliance with permit conditions.	Already completed

Action 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.

You are non-compliant with your permit.

We are currently considering taking enforcement action against you for the non-compliance recorded above. We will contact you in due course.

4. Details of our assessment

I (NRW Officer Gavin Summerhill) attended Hafod Quarry, Brook Street, Abercarn, NP11 5LH in response to a report of pollution in the River Ebbw (WIRS 2409341).

Reported Incident 14/06/24 14.15 - Following intelligence from NRW officers Kirsty Lewis and Chris Burge the source of the pollution was traced back to Hafod Quarry, Abercarn by Chris Burge.

Photos of reported incident. (fig 1 & 2)

Fig 1



Fig 2



14/06/2024 14:40 I checked the river at grid ref ST 21637 95817. The watercourse appeared clear with no odours. A sample was taken at this location (upstream of suspected source) 1Ltr Gen (Plastic) Photo taken. (fig 3)

(fig 3)



14/06/2024 15:21 I proceeded to check the river downstream at grid ref ST 21740 95513. Again the watercourse appeared clear with no odours. A sample was taken at this location (downstream of suspected source) 1Ltr Gen (Plastic) Photo taken. (fig 4)

(fig 4)



14/06/2024 15.27. I proceeded to check the channel running from Hafod Quarry down to Lower Brook Street. This channel was not discharging at the time of my visit. There was a very small trickle of water so I was not able to take a sample. Photo taken. (fig 5)

(fig 5)



I continued to Hafod Quarry to speak with the site manager. The site supervisor identified himself as Andrew Hurn. I cautioned Mr Hurn at 15.36. Mr Hurn advised he was not aware of any incidents that had taken place that day. Mr Hurn advised no discharges had taken place that day. Mr Hurn did advise that heavy rainfall commenced that day approximately 11.45am. I advised Mr Hurn that previous incidents have occurred on site and warning letters have been given. I advised Mr Hurn that enforcement action is the next course of action if any incidents or pollutions take place. Code B given. Left site at 15.48.

Although there was no discharge present at the time of my visit and the receiving watercourse (River Ebbw) was clear at the time of my visit, NRW officers investigation and photographic evidence substantiated that a discharge from Hafod Quarry had taken place

that day.

Breaches of permit condition:

1. PERMIT CONDITION 1 – The discharge

(a) The discharge shall not contain any poisonous, noxious or polluting matter or solid waste matter.

(b) Provided that the discharge hereby consented is made in accordance with the following conditions of the consent, such discharge shall not be taken to be in breach of condition (a) above by reason of containing substances or having properties identified in and controlled by these conditions.

Action required by dates specified:

1. *Continue improvements on site to bring back the permit bring into compliance with permit conditions.*

Deadline:

Ongoing. Please keep Natural Resources Wales updated on progress.

Contact details:

If you have any queries regarding this CAR form or to provide an update on any actions above, please contact me using the following details:

Gavin Summerhill (Environment Officer)

gavin.summerhill@cyfoethnaturiolcymru.gov.uk

If we do not receive the information requested within specified deadline and have not been informed as to why there is a delay, then we may serve a Regulation 60 Notice requiring the information under Environmental Permitting (England and Wales) Regulations 2016.

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 to 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
C1 Major	Potential to have a major, serious, persistent and/or extensive impact or effect on the environment, people and/or property
C2 Significant	Potential to have a significant impact or effect on the environment, people and/or property
C3 Minor	Potential to have a minor or minimal impact or effect on the environment, people and/or property
C4 No environmental impact	Non-compliance at a regulated site that cannot foreseeably have any impact on the environment, people and/or property

If your assessment result in Section 1 is suspended, what does this mean?

In line with our guidance, we may suspend non-compliance for up to six months to allow time for remedial action to be taken. These will be re-instated if the action is not completed.

Full list of water quality action criteria (used in section 1 and 2):**WQ A: Management**

- WQ-A1 General management

WQ B: Operations

- WQ-B1 Permitted activities
- WQ-B2 The site
- WQ-B3 Operating techniques
- WQ-B4 Improvement programme
- WQ-B5 Pre-operational conditions

WQ C: Emissions and monitoring

- WQ-C1 Emissions to water
- WQ-C2 Emissions to land
- WQ-C3 Emissions of substances not controlled by emission limits
- WQ-C4 Installation of monitoring boreholes

WQ D: Information

- WQ-D1 Records
- WQ-D2 Reporting
- WQ-D3 Notifications

Enforcement response

Any permit condition non-compliance 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 20 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 – 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.