

Compliance Assessment Report CAR_NRW0048177

Permit being assessed: BU8819IV.

For: Pwllfawatkin Landfill Site EPR/BU8819IV, **held by:** FCC Waste Services (UK) Limited

At: Pwllfawatkin Landfill Site , Pontardawe, SWANSEA, West Glamorgan, SA8 4RX.

Type of assessment: Site Inspection,

Reason: Routine.

On: 09/04/2025 between 10:30 and 12:00.

Parts of permit assessed: See Section 4. .

NRW Lead Officer: Benjamin Taylor, accompanied by Michael Launder.

Report sent to: Operations Manager, FCC Environment, on 09/05/2025.

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)	
IR2G - Installations - Operations - Landfill engineering (only applicable to landfill)	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

Introduction

This Compliance Assessment Report (CAR) is regarding a Site Visit undertaken on the 9th of April 2025 by Natural Resources Wales (NRW) to the Pwllfawatkin Landfill Complex, which is managed by FCC Environment (the Operator) under permit number EPR/BU8819IV.

Scope

This was a pre-arranged visit, the purpose of which was to attend the Capping Pre-Start Meeting (organised by the Operator) ahead of the proposed 2025 Permanent Capping and Restoration Soils Works; which are due to be completed by October 2025.

Representatives from the following companies/organisations were in attendance:

- FCC Environment
- Natural Resources Wales (NRW)
- Sirius Group
- Jones Bros Civil Engineering
- INFINIS Energy

The works will be undertaken in accordance with the following pre-approved (by NRW) Construction Quality Assurance (CQA) Plans:

- 479-SW-2013-24 (submitted February 2014)
- 479-SW-2016-07 (submitted May 2016)
- EEL.7265.R02.001 (submitted July 2019)

In accordance with permit condition 2.6.5, the Operator requested to use these CQA Plans on the 10th of April 2025, this request was subsequently accepted by the NRW Officer on the 17th of April 2025.

Site Observations

NRW Officers arrived onsite at 10:30am and were met by the representatives of the companies involved within the proposed capping works. Following introductions, a Site Walkover was undertaken to facilitate inspection of the exposed Artificial Capping Liner (ACL) and the restoration

soils stockpile.



Image 1: Soil buttress - southern flank.

The Walkover began at the southern flank of the Phase 4 - Sidewall, where the Soil Buttress is planned to be extended as part of the 2025 Capping and Restoration Project (illustrated within 4962-CAU-XX-XX-DR-V-1800).



Image 2: Crest of the capped area.

NRW Officers then walked up to the crest of capped area, the Operator outlined during the visit that leachate production has decreased further since the previous visit undertaken in January 2024. A number of gas pin-wells were noted as being marked for removal by INFINIS, these are to be

subsequently re-drilled once the capping works have been completed and a suitable Construction Quality Assurance (CQA) Plan has been approved by NRW. No landfill gas odours were detected by NRW Officers at the time of the inspection.



Image 3: Approximate location of proposed sidewall tie-in area.

NRW were informed that during the works, a small section of waste at the base of the eastern access road (Image 3 above) will need to be exposed to facilitate the sidewall tie-in, the remaining capping works will predominantly consist of a Geo-composite Drainage Layer (GDL) overlain with 1 metre of suitable restoration soils. Surface water will be managed via a series of spinal drains which are positioned down the flanks; feeding into existing drainage lines which run along the east/western borders of Tip 890. The proposed works are expected to be undertaken over May, June and July 2025.



Image 4: Stockpiled restoration soils area - removed non-compliant material visible.

NRW Officers then inspected the restoration soils, which are stockpiled to the south-east of Tip 890. It was noted that efforts had been made by the contractor (working on behalf of the Operator) to remove large non-compliant material i.e. stones and boulders that pose a risk of damaging the ACL/Infrastructure associated with exposed sections of Tip 890. The Operator informed NRW that 47,000 tonnes of material has been imported to Site (in addition to the soils already present onsite) and these imports would continue until end of July. These imports were largely sourced from residential housing projects, and compliance testing is undertaken in intervals of a 1000 tonnes of material.

The Site Walkover finished at 12:00.

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.