

Compliance Assessment Report CAR_NRW0048655

Permit being assessed: AB3591CP

For: Beic Parcio Wales, held by Beic Parcio Cymru

At: Gethin Woodland Centre, Abercanaid, Merthyr Tydfil, CF48 1YZ.

Type of assessment carried out: Site Inspection, Reason: Incident Response (Incident number: 2505565).

On 12/06/2025, between 11:15 and 13:15.

Parts of permit assessed: All

NRW Lead Officer: Ceri Malone.

Report sent to: Lowri Jones, CAO Beic Parcio Cymru, on 25/06/2025.

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

Part of permitted activity assessed (criteria)	Assessment result	Permit condition
WQ-A1 - Water Quality - Management - General management	Assessed (A)	
WQ-B2 - Water Quality - Operations - The site	Assessed (A)	
WQ-D1 - Water Quality - Information - Records	Assessed (A)	
WQ-D2 - Water Quality - Information - Reporting	Assessed (A)	
WQ-C1 - Water Quality - Emissions and monitoring - Emissions to water	C2 Significant	3.1 Emissions to water - 3.1.2 The limits given in schedule 3 shall not be exceeded.

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	1. Put in place measures to ensure compliance with discharge limits using relevant specialists as required for the investigation and remediation of PTP issues. Complete by 25/07/2025. 2. Complete all actions (short and long term) listed in the final investigation report produced by BPC. Complete by the dates identified in the report. 3. Further identify/justify the reason for the initial Willow Pumps sample failure as discussed on 12/06/25. Complete by 25/07/2025.	25/07/2025

Criteria	Action needed	Complete by

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.

At this time, we are issuing you with a warning for the non-compliance recorded above. Warnings may influence future enforcement response for continued or further non-compliance.

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

Package Treatment Plant serving Beic Parcio Cymru Ltd (Permit Number EPR/AB3591CP)

Site/Investigation Report

30/04/25

On 30/04/25 Beic Parcio Cymru (BPC) supplied Natural Resources Wales (NRW) with a Schedule 5 notification relating to an exceedance of limits in EPR/AB3591CP for their package treatment plant (PTP). The sample was taken by Willow Pumps on 24/03/25 with the following results:

Suspended Solids - 31 mg/l, Ammonia - 52.8mg/l, BOD - 55mg/l

These results exceeded the limits listed on the permit.

Limits: Suspended Solids - 30 mg/l, Ammonia - 5.45mg/l, BOD - 20mg/l

NRW were informed that an investigation was being undertaken.

28/05/25

On 28/05/25 the NRW Bridgend and Cwm Taf Environment team were informed of a further reported exceedance from the PTP. This exceedance was from a sample taken at 13:17 on 15/05/25 (sample number 250085009) by NRW's Environmental Assessment team. NRW informed BPC of this result on 30/05/25. A result of 61mg/l for suspended solids was seen. All other tests were within permitted limits (including ammonia and BOD). Coincidentally Willow Pumps had attended the same day at 11:00 to further sample. A smaller exceedance of 31mg/l for suspended solids was seen, with all other results within limits.

11/06/25

On 11/06/25 BPC supplied NRW with a final investigation report that had been produced relating to the exceedances. Validity of the initial Willow Pumps sample results were queried by BPC due to:

- Sample result turnaround time and therefore sample stability
- Comparison with in-house sampling results
- Sample timing (around the time of a de-sludge)
- Sampling location

As part of the investigation by BPC the following potential causes were identified for increased suspended solid results:

1. Inconsistent flow causing sediment built up (as identified in October 2023)
2. Higher demand at the weekend may be stretching the STP and providing inconsistent flow.
3. There is too much sludge in the system, as a tanker can only remove 20m³ of a 50m³ tank
4. The kitchen does not have a grease trap, with these fats potentially effecting the efficiency of the STP.

Both short term and long term action plans were produced by BPC as follows:

Short Term Action Plan

Number	Action	Responsible Person	Deadline	
1	Increase visits from 3 per year to 4 per year (or more if required) to remove the sludge and help the system to deal with the load it receives. Including an initial double load empty.	L Jones	14/06/2025	
2	Arrange for cleaning of culvert pipework (ensuring no cleaning effluent is discharged)	L Jones	14/06/2025	
3	Provide portaloos for the summer and peak periods to reduce the load on the current system	R Davies Cooke	20/07/2025	
4	Arrange to put in a grease trap in the kitchen to reduce waste going into the system	L Jones / Courtney	20/07/2025	
5	Investigate options to normalise the flow of water through the system on closed days	L Jones / Gareth Fisher	01/07/2025	
6	Continue to monitor the system, taking monthly samples using an external provider for the next 4 months to confirm the increased desludging has reduced the SS and load on the system.	L Jones	14/06/2025	
7	Arrange for monthly sampling over next 4 months	L Jones	14/06/2025	
8	Analyse results of sampling and assess corrective measure(s) if required	L Jones/ Anna Astley	31/10/2025	
9	Implement corrective measure(s) if required	M Astley	31/03/2024	

The long term plan dependant on the results of the short term plan and further specialist advice is as follows:

1. Modifications to the current system:
 - a. Installing a forward feeder to process the waste twice and reduce the variations in the load.
 - b. Installing a polisher or final treatment to remove any traces of waste form this point
2. Installing a new larger plant that can cope with the current and future demands of

the site.

12/06/25

On 12/06/25 a Natural Resources Wales Environment Officer conducted a site inspection of the PTP (EPR/AB3591CP) at BPC. This was due to the exceedances previously mentioned and as part of a routine annual compliance visit. The CEO and CAO of BPC were in attendance. The weather was overcast and although dry for most of the visit some heavy showers were seen later in the day. BPC was open this day to visitors as part of their normal operating hours. The PTP appeared to be functioning correctly with aeration audible (*photograph 1*).



Photograph 1: PTP Operating

Maintenance and monitoring was discussed and was in line with previous years. As noted in the short term action plan maintenance is to be increased to 4x per year and increased sampling for the next 4 months. The discharge from the PTP at the monitoring point was checked (NGR SO 05072 03532). It appeared clear (*photograph 2*) and had no visible effect on the receiving watercourse. Flow from the PTP was low but sampling was possible. A 2L bipartite sample was taken at 12:15 and later split with BPC. 3x1L samples of the source, upstream and downstream were also taken to determine any environmental impact.



Photograph 2: PTP Discharge

Samples were processed by NRW's laboratory with the following results:

NRW 12/06/25 Sample Results (mg/l)			
	BOD ATU	Ammonia(N)	Suspended Solids @ 105°C
PTP Discharge	4.88	0.5	6
Source	3	0.5	33
Downstream	3	0.5	24
Upstream	3	0.5	44

All sample results taken from 12/06/25 were within the limits listed on the permit. As on this occasion there were no exceedances or environmental impact seen from the discharge any issue appears to be intermittent rather than continuous. The difference in suspended solids results on 15/05/25 from NRW and Willow Pumps despite only a 2hr 17 minute sampling difference further supports an intermittent problem. Increased monthly sampling of the discharge by NRW's Environmental Assessment team will be requested for 2025-2026. This along with BPC's increased sampling may help identify any trends in sample exceedances and better monitor the systems functionality.

As part of the site investigation a review of permit BB3197FK was also conducted for the bike wash on site. The bike wash discharge itself also feeds into the outfall pipework for the PTP - discharging at the same location. It was noted that there appeared to be ingress of silt into the pipework post treatment at the bike wash monitoring point which may be increasing suspended solids into the system. The bike wash pipework also appeared to have excess silt depositing which may be affecting sample results. The bike wash could not

be sampled at this time due to low flows and small pipework meaning taking a representative sample would be impossible without disturbing any sediment which had settled out (therefore not being representative of any discharge). A CAR form for the bike wash will be completed separately however as both systems discharge via the same pipework it should be considered as part of any remedial action in BPC's investigation actions.

Breaches of permit condition:

3.1 Emissions to water - 3.1.2 The limits given in schedule 3 shall not be exceeded.

NRW's 15/05/2025 sample for suspended solids result of 61mg/l exceeded the limits in schedule 3 of the permit.

Due to this exceedance a warning letter has been completed as part of the CAR form.

Action required by dates specified:

- **Put in place measures to ensure compliance with discharge limits using relevant specialists as required for the investigation and remediation of PTP issues. Complete by 25/07/2025.**
- **Complete all actions (short and long term) listed in the final investigation report produced by BPW. Dates identified in the report**
- **Further identify/justify the reason for the initial Willow Pumps sample failure as discussed on 12/06/25. Complete by 25/07/2025.**

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: Ceri Malone, Environment Officer, Ceri.Malone@naturalresourceswales.gov.uk

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.