

Compliance Assessment Report CAR_NRW0048646

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: 05/06/2025 between 09:45 and 12:00.

Parts of permit assessed: See Section 4.

NRW Lead Officer: Benjamin Taylor.

Report sent to: Operations Manager, FCC Environment, on 25/06/2025.

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

Part of permitted activity assessed (compliance criteria)	Assessment result	Permit condition
IR2G - Installations - Operations - Landfill engineering (only applicable to landfill)	Assessed (A)	
IR3C - Installations - Emissions and monitoring - Odour	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 5th of June 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 a periodic progress meeting. These meetings (which are organised by the Operator) are held on a fortnightly basis and provide an opportunity to gain insight into the progress with the Permanent Capping and Restoration Soils Works 2025. Furthermore these meeting also facilitate any operational or logistical issues to be raised and addressed.

Representatives from the following companies/organisations were in attendance:

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

Site Observations

NRW Officers arrived onsite at 09:45am and were met by the representatives of the companies involved within the proposed capping works. A Site Walkover was undertaken at 10:10am to visually inspect progress made by the Operator on their Permanent Capping and Restoration Soils Works 2025.



Image 1: Tie-in location at base of former access road

NRW were informed that the small section at the base of the former access road which required sidewall tie-in had now been completed. This required excavation of the area down to the regulating layer, NRW were informed that this was completed with no waste exposure required which ultimately resulted in no landfill odours being recorded by onsite personnel. Following completion of the sidewall tie-in works, Tip 890 is now considered to be fully capped with an impermeable membrane by the Operator.



Image 2: 1000mm restoration soils deployed on the Western flank of Tip 890.

The NRW Officer observed the deployment of 1000mm of restoration soils over the Western flank of Tip 890. The Operator informed NRW that they continue to remove non-compliant material i.e. large angular rock fragments where possible to reduce the risk of damage to the capping membrane.



Image 3: View from crest of Tip 890 - facing Southwest

The NRW Officer viewed the landfill complex from the crest of 890. It was noted that the pin-wells marked for removal by INFINIS Energy during the previous visit had been decommissioned as planned. These pin-wells are to be replaced by dedicated gas wells which are believed to be located along the top of Tip 890. A CQA Plan (*Pwllfawatkin Gas Well Drilling CQA Plan Infnis June 2025*) detailing these drilling works was submitted by the Operator on the 6th of June 2025 and is currently awaiting approval by NRW.



Image 4: View from crest of Tip 890 - facing North

NRW noted during the walkover that restoration has been deployed throughout the northern section of Tip 890.



Image 5: View from Crest of Tip 890 - facing Southeast

NRW then observed the Eastern flank of Tip 890 which is still awaiting deployment of the Geocomposite Drainage Layer (GDL) and restoration soils. No landfill gas odours were detected by NRW throughout the duration of the Site Walkover.

Whilst onsite, NRW noted that there was a significant pooling of surface water in the vicinity of the weighbridge. This is considered to be attributed to either insufficient drainage within the area, or the result of the fall gradient associated with the surrounding land areas. The Operator requested proposals from Jones Bros Civil Engineering in how to address this issue, with plans to incorporate these works into the future removal of the weighbridge structure.

The Walkover concluded with a final meeting within the nearby welfare facilities, the key points of which are summarised below:

- Proposal for additional foot of restoration soils to be deployed on crest of Tip 890 to provide additional protection of capping liner from drilling rig movements required for the proposed gas well installation.
- NRW requested that results from laboratory testing of the liner welds be provided for inclusion within the generated CAR.
 - The Operator submitted these results to NRW on the 24th of June 2025.
- Onsite tanks proposed to be cleaned and removed from Site via a third-party company, yet to be confirmed.

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.