

Compliance Assessment Report CAR_NRW0048400

Permit being assessed: AB3233DW.

For: GP Biotec Ltd, **held by:** GP Biotec Ltd

At: Great Porthamel AD Plant, Talgarth, Brecon, Powys, LD3 0DL.

Type of assessment: Site Inspection,

Reason: Routine.

On: 21/05/2025 between 10:30 and 13:00.

Parts of permit assessed: Emissions & Monitoring.

NRW Lead Officer: Rhydian Cox.

Report sent to: Compliance Manager, GP Biotec Ltd, on 04/07/2025.

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

Part of permitted activity assessed (compliance criteria)	Assessment result	Permit condition
IR3C - Installations - Emissions and monitoring - Odour	Assessed (A)	
IR3D - Installations - Emissions and monitoring - Noise and vibration	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

This Compliance Assessment Report (CAR) details the comments of Natural Resources Wales (NRW) Officers for the site inspection conducted on 21 May 2025 at GP Biotec Ltd, Great Porthamel, Talgarth, Brecon, Powys, LD3 0DL for activities held by GP Biotec Ltd (the operator) under the environmental permit EPR-AB3233DW.

The purpose of the visit was to address a number of odour reports reported to Natural Resources Wales (NRW), which may be associated with the site operations. The visit also aimed to discuss the pending environmental permit variation, inspect the existing waste reception facility, and assess the proposed location for a new reception facility - currently under consideration by the Brecon Beacons National Park Planning Authority (BBNPA) as part of an active planning application. In addition, an odour assessment was conducted both on-site and in the surrounding area.

No non-compliance scores were recorded against the operators permit conditions on this inspection.

Odour Complaints

Between 02 May 2025 and 15 May 2025, NRW received a number of odour reports potentially linked to the site and its operations. Following engagement with the operator and cross-referencing the timing of complaints with both on-site and off-site activities, it was determined that several of the reports could potentially be attributable to the spreading of digestate in the Talgarth area. Other reports may have been associated to the reception of wastes at the facility. However, some reports could not be linked to any potential identifiable source.

During the visit, discussions were also held regarding ongoing planning applications currently under consideration by the local planning authority. Three applications are pending determination, including one for the development of a new waste reception facility for feedstocks entering the Anaerobic Digestion (AD) system. The operator advised that the proposed facility will incorporate modern odour abatement technologies and is expected to represent a substantial improvement over the existing infrastructure.

Once operational, the new reception facility will allow the current facility to be taken temporarily offline for refurbishment and system upgrades. The existing facility is intended to serve as a contingency or 'back-up' unit during future maintenance of the new installation.

At present, detailed specifications for the odour abatement systems within the new facility have not been finalised, as the operator is awaiting the outcome of the planning application before progressing with final design work.

A site tour was conducted, which included the existing waste reception area and the proposed location for the new facility. No offensive odours were detected either on-site or around the site perimeter. A faint, garlic-like odour was noted in the vicinity of the current reception facility. The operator provided an overview of the feedstock acceptance procedures. Observations of the proposed facility's location were made, and discussions

took place concerning the intended design and operational processes aimed at minimising potential odour emissions.

Odour Assessment

An odour assessment was conducted in the vicinity of the GP Biotec facility and in and around Talgarth, with a particular focus on locations corresponding to reported odour incidents. Approximately five minutes was spent at each assessment point, during which observations were recorded.

Weather conditions at the time of the assessment were sunny and clear, with temperatures ranging between 19°C and 20°C and no discernible wind. No offensive odours were detected within and along the boundary of the GP Biotec facility during the site inspection/assessment.

In terms of noise, operational sounds consistent with expected levels on-site were noted, specifically emanating from one of the on-site boilers. However, this noise was not detectable upon leaving the premises.

The following locations were assessed;

- 12:15 PM - Talgarth Library, Hay Rd, Talgarth, LD3 0DQ
- 12:23 PM - Bryn Derwen, Talgarth, LD3 0DH
- 12:31 PM - St Gwendoline's Church, Church St, Brecon, LD3 0DG
- 12:51 PM - The Paddocks, Bronllys Rd, Talgarth, LD3 0HH

No odours were detected at any of the assessed locations during the time of the visit. Additionally, no noise was observed at these locations that could reasonably be attributed to operations at the GP Biotec facility.

END

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.