

Compliance Assessment Report CAR_NRW0048712

Permit being assessed: AN0235601

For: Sewage treatment plant serving Hafod Quarry, held by TARMAC TRADING LIMITED
At: Hafod Quarry, Abercarn, Newbridge, Caerphilly, NP11 5LH.

Type of assessment carried out: Check Monitoring/Sampling, Reason: Incident Response (Incident number: 2505336).

On 05/06/2025.

Parts of permit assessed: Emissions monitoring/composition

NRW Lead Officer: Elis Nuttall.

Report sent to: Tarmac Trading Limited, Site Operator, on 03/07/2025.

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	C1 Major	8(a) - Suspended Solids

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	Bring site emissions under control so that they meet the permitted composition limits.	31/07/2025

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

This report reflects the emissions monitoring breach recorded by Natural Resources Wales (NRW) on the 05/06/2025 at Hafod Quarry, Abercarn (operated by Tarmac Trading Limited), permit reference number AN0235601.

On the 05/006/2025, NRW's Environmental Assessment and Advice Team (EAAT) undertook routine sampling at Hafod Quarry's listed sampling/discharge point (ST2199795988). On arrival at the sampling point the EAAT staff member raised concerns

regarding the turbidity of the discharge which was photographed as evidence (see Figure 1) and reported to the local NRW Environment Team. It was agreed that this turbidity clearly showed elevated levels of total suspended solids (TSS). The routine sampling was undertaken by EAAT with the request that the result be shared with the Environment Team as soon as they are returned.



Figure 1: The discharge as it appeared during EAAT's routine sampling visit on the 05/06/2025.

The sample results were returned on the 23/06/2025, which contained a TSS result of 1880 mg/l. This is over 2000% higher than the permitted limit of 80 mg/l, and constitutes a Category 1 (Major) breach. The details of the breach and required actions are outlined below.

Breaches of permit condition:

CATEGORY 1 BREACH – PERMIT CONDITION 8(a) – Suspended Solids Emissions

The discharge shall not contain more than 80 milligrammes per litre of suspended solids (measured after drying at 105°C).

The result of 1880 mg/l of TSS is a major breach of the permitted emissions limit. As such NRW has assessed this as a Category 1 breach.

Actions required by dates specified:

1. Bring site emissions under control so that they meet the permitted composition limits.

Deadline: 31/07/2025

Other advisory comments:

No advisory comments.

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: Elis Nuttall, Environment Officer, elis.nuttall@naturalresourceswales.gov.uk, 03000 65 4651.

Thank you,

Elis Nuttall.

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.