

## Compliance Assessment Report CAR\_NRW0048815

**Permit being assessed:** VP3736EF.

**For:** Newport Steam Reforming Plant, **held by:** The BOC Group Limited

**At:** Steam Reforming Plant Corporation Road , Newport , NP19 4XF.

**Type of assessment:** Site Inspection,

**Reason:** Routine.

**On:** 09/05/2025 between 10:00 and 11:00.

**Parts of permit assessed:** 3.2 Emissions of substances not controlled by emission limits.

**NRW Lead Officer:** Luke Burton.

**Report sent to:** Senior SHEQ Advisor , BOC Limited, on 14/07/2025.

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

| Part of permitted activity assessed (compliance criteria)                                                   | Assessment result | Permit condition |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| IR3B - Installations - Emissions and monitoring - Emissions of substances not controlled by emission limits | C3 Minor          | 3.2.3            |
| IR1A - Installations - Management - General Management                                                      | C3 Minor          | 1.1.1            |
| IR3B - Installations - Emissions and monitoring - Emissions of substances not controlled by emission limits | Action only (X)   |                  |
| IR1A - Installations - Management - General Management                                                      | Action only (X)   |                  |

Result types are explained in more detail in the 'Important Information' section below.

| Total non-compliances recorded | Total non-compliance score |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 2                              | 8                          |

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?

| Criteria | Action needed                                                                                                           | Complete by |
|----------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|
| IR3B     | Action 1: Operator to reconfigure blow down drum's ancillary pipework so that it to discharges into appropriate primary | 14/08/2025  |

| Criteria | Action needed                                                                                                                                                                  | Complete by |
|----------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|
|          | containment, provided with appropriate secondary containment.                                                                                                                  |             |
| IR1A     | Action 2: Operator to update all management documentation to include the requirement for, at least, weekly inspections of secondary containment and associated record keeping. | 14/08/2025  |
| IR3B     | Action 3: Operator to contain dosing line(s) within secondary containment.                                                                                                     | 14/08/2025  |
| IR1A     | Action 4: Operator to update all management documentation to accurately reflect the polluting liquids held on site.                                                            | 14/08/2025  |

Compliance 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.

#### **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) has been produced following a partial site inspection of the containment of polluting liquids at the permitted installation.

The following documents were reviewed as part of the inspection:

- 060-71-TS-X0004 Written Scheme
- IMS-22-12-PAP-RUK (1) (002)
- IMS-22-12 Mandatory Compliance Checklist - Eastman

Condition 3.2.3 of the environmental permit states:

*All liquids in containers, whose emission to water or land could cause pollution, shall be provided with secondary containment, unless the operator has used other appropriate measures to prevent or where that is not practicable, to minimise, leakage and spillage from the primary container.*

Containers for the following liquids were inspected:

- Aircol
- Aircol
- Waste oil
- Amersite
- Dewphos
- Optisperse

Waste oil originating from the blow down drums was found to be discharging outside of

primary and secondary containment in that ancillary equipment, namely tap from the drum, was not configured to discharge into the primary container. However, the primary container was provided with secondary containment.

As a result of this non-compliance a CCS Score C3 has been recorded against compliance criteria IR3B Emissions of substances not controlled by emission limits

**Action 1: Operator to reconfigure ancillary pipework to discharge into primary containment, served by secondary containment.**

In accordance with Natural Resources Wales principles for assessing non-compliance : root cause of the non-compliance(s) must be identified and assessed and, where appropriate, non-compliances consolidated.

Records of the visual checks undertaken by operating and maintenance staff was viewed. Weekly checks were not recorded. Records of periodic checks were observed following the inspection. Weekly checks are not documented.

We determine that the root cause of this non-compliance is a management system failure, in that effective operational procedures, namely weekly checks, were not conducted.

The management system failures which led to the above non-compliances represents non-compliance with permit condition 1.1.1.

As a result of this non-compliance a consolidated CCS Score C3 has been recorded against compliance sub-criteria IR1A General management

**Action 2: Operator to update all management documentation to include the requirement for, at least, weekly inspections of secondary containment and associated record keeping.**

Note: An inspection of the compressor and oil pump sump was not conducted as part of this inspection.

Ancillary equipment in the form one dosing line within the water treatment cabin was not provided with secondary containment, namely overhanging the edge of the bund. This was not determined to be a permit breach given the visible integrity of the line (primary container) and that it was contained within a sealed cabin (tertiary containment).

**Action 3: Operator to contain all dosing lines within secondary containment.**

A number of the liquids listed in 'IMS-22-12 Mandatory Compliance Checklist - Eastman' are no longer held on site.

**Action 4: Operator to update all management documentation to accurately reflect the polluting liquids held on site.**

[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](mailto: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](mailto: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.