

Compliance Assessment Report CAR_NRW0048793

Permit being assessed: AP3798FB.

For: E.J. Metals Recycling Ltd, **held by:** EJ METALS RECYCLING LTD

At: Creuddyn Bridge, Lampeter, Ceredigion, SA48 8BA.

Type of assessment: Site Inspection,

Reason: Routine.

On: 03/07/2025 between 12:30 and 13:15.

Parts of permit assessed: See criteria listed below.

NRW Lead Officer: Luke Taylor, accompanied by Christopher Gilbey.

Report sent to: Evan Jones, Site Operator , on 08/08/2025.

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

Part of permitted activity assessed (compliance criteria)	Assessment result	Permit condition
W1A - Waste - Management - General management	C3 Minor	Paragraph 2 (6)(b) of Part 3 of Schedule 9 of The Environmental Permitting Regulations 2016
W4B - Waste - Information - Reporting	C3 Minor	6.1.1

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
W1A	Obtain the relevant competency qualification or the services of a suitably qualified person	30/09/2025
W4B	Submit outstanding waste returns to NRW	30/09/2025

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.

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

This compliance assessment report is being produced following an announced inspection of EJ Metals by Luke Taylor (Senior Waste Regulation Officer) and Chris Gilbey (Tackling Waste Crime Officer) of Natural Resources Wales.

The weather at the time of the inspection was dry and bright with no wind.

The site was operational and the officers were accompanied by the site supervisor, Justin.

W1A - General Management - Paragraph 2 (6)(b) of Part 3 of Schedule 9 of The Environmental Permitting Regulations 2016 - Category 3

You have been scored for the above breach as your Technically Competent Management qualification has expired and, at the time of the inspection, you have not sat and passed a continued competency test. Your primary qualification expired in August 2024, and it seems that the site has been operating without a Technically Competent Manager since that time. Please ensure that you obtain the relevant competency qualification by the deadline below, or obtain the services of a suitably qualified person to act as Technically Competent Manager cover for your site.

Permit Condition 2.3.1 states that, if your Technically Competent Manager changes, you are required to submit to NRW details of the new manager and their qualifications within 5 days of the change. Should the services of an external Technically Competent Manager be obtained, please supply these details accordingly.

ACTION - Obtain the relevant competency qualification or the services of a suitably qualified person. Deadline 30/09/2025

W4B - Reporting - Permit condition 6.1.1 - Category 3

You have not submitted waste returns for financial year 2024-2025. This is a breach of permit condition 6.1.1 which requires that a return for each financial year be submitted within one month of the end of that year.

From review, the last waste returns to be submitted were those for Q3 2023. An email was sent to you from the Waste Returns officer on 12th July 2024 informing you of an issue with the submission, with no further returns having been submitted since that time.

Please ensure that these outstanding returns are completed correctly and submitted before 30th September 2025. The submission of your annual waste returns are also an important part of demonstrating compliance with the requirement to have an appropriately qualified technically competent manager.

ACTION - Submit outstanding waste returns to NRW. Deadline 30/09/2025

Other Observations

It was noted during a previous compliance visit that you were in the process on improving the site infrastructure by extending the impermeable surface to include the whole of the yard in front of the depollution building and down the eastern side of the same building. This work included replacement of drains, with the new surface draining to the interceptor. This work has been completed, however some of the drainage channels were missing their covers, which could allow debris to enter and block the system. To ensure this does not occur, the covers need to be reinstated over these.

If you wish to discuss any aspect of this compliance assessment report, please contact me at:

luke.taylor@cyfoethnaturiolcymru.gov.uk

Regards,
Luke Taylor

In this document 'Natural Resources Wales' means the Natural Resources Body for Wales established by Article 3 of the Natural Resources Body for Wales (Establishment) order 2012

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 Waste compliance criteria (used in section 1 and 2):

1. Management

- W1A – General management
- W1B – Energy Efficiency (MCP/SG facilities only)
- W1C – Avoidance, recovery and disposal of wastes produced by the activities

2. Operations

- W2A – Permitted activities
- W2B – Waste recovery plan
- W2C – Operating techniques
- W2D – The site
- W2E – Waste acceptance
- W2F – Technical requirements
- W2G – Improvement programme
- W2H – Pre-operational conditions

3. Emission and Monitoring

- W3A – Emissions to water, air or land
- W3B – Emissions of substances not controlled by emission limits
- W3C – Odour
- W3D – Noise and vibration
- W3E – Monitoring
- W3F – Pests
- W3G – Fire

4. Information

- W4A – Records
- W4B – Reporting
- W4C – 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.