

Compliance Assessment Report CAR_NRW0049149

Permit being assessed: VP3132LJ.

For: Mwyndy Solid Fuel Briquette Manufacturer EA/EPR/VP3132LJ/V002, **held by:** Maxibrite Ltd

At: Mwyndy Industrial Estate , Mwyndy, Llantrisant, Rhondda Cynon Taf, CF72 8PN.

Type of assessment: Site Inspection,

Reason: Routine.

On: 06/08/2025 between 10:00 and 13:00.

Parts of permit assessed: Surrender & Decommissioning .

NRW Lead Officer: Lewis Evans.

Report sent to: Mike Littleford, Minerals Consultant, on 18/08/2025.

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

Part of permitted activity assessed (compliance criteria)	Assessment result	Permit condition
IR2A - Installations - Operations - Permitted activities	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

Maxibrite Ltd – EPR/VP3132LJ

6th August 2025

The purpose of this visit was for Natural Resources Wales (NRW) officer Evans to visit site in order to give advice and guidance for the surrender application and to have a final walk round the site to see the layout of the yard.

Decommissioning Plan:

The site have been working through the decommissioning plan that was produced at the time of the original application (Improvement Condition 3).

The following points have either been completed or are in the process of being completed or are in the process of being completed.

1. Raw material stocks e.g. coal fines, binder and additives would be allowed to run down to minimum levels.
Completed March 2025.
2. Production would cease.
Completed February 2023
3. All main process equipment would be shut down, cleaned and decommissioned. **Completed October 2023**
4. Remaining stocks of raw materials would be removed from site (either by transfer to another plant or sold and returned back to suppliers).
Completed March 2025.
5. All storage tanks and associated pipelines would be cleaned and washed out, with contaminated water being pumped from site to PPC permit release point W1 (once all relevant discharge limits were complied with) – if it was not practicable to discharge to W1, then the relevant contaminated water would be tankered off site in accordance with the duty of care regulations.
Completed January 2025
6. Product stocks would be sold to customers.
Completed February 2025
7. Once all coal fines / products were removed from site, the water in the water storage lagoons 1, 2 and 3 would be pumped from site to PPC permit release point W1 (once all relevant discharge limits were complied with) – if it was not practicable to discharge to W1, then the relevant contaminated water would be tankered off site in accordance with the duty of care regulations.
To be planned for late August 2025
8. The lagoons would then be de-sludged, and the coal-based pond fines sold or transferred off

site in accordance with the duty of care regulations. Any liner installed in lagoon 3 would be removed and disposed of in the appropriate manner, and the lagoon in-filled with appropriate material. Completed March 2025 Up to this point, power would have to be maintained in order to outload product, operate the weighbridge and to pump rainwater from the site to discharge point W1. In addition, water sprays would need to be used as necessary to suppress any airborne dust/minimise the likelihood of a significant airborne dust emission.

To be planned for late August 2025

9. The gas oil tanks would be emptied and cleaned. Any remaining material would be sold, transferred to other sites, or disposed of in accordance with Special/Hazardous Waste Regulations and Duty of Care Regulations and transported by a licensed waste contractor.

To be planned for late August 2025.

10. Refractory material would be sent for recycling where possible or disposed of in accordance with Special/Hazardous Waste Regulations and Duty of Care Regulations (and transported by a licensed waste contractor).

Completed January 2025

11. Production/Maintenance store stock, spares and equipment would be transferred or sold off, keeping a small stock of spares for essential equipment until last. **Completed March 2025**

12. Services, electricity, gas and water supplies would be isolated in accordance with supplier recommendations. A mobile generator would have to be used for pumping rainwater from site, and testing water discharge samples until the PPC permit was surrendered.

Gas will be disconnected September 2025, electricity and water to remain connected

13. Boilers would be shut down and decommissioned before removal from site. All water treatment chemicals would be removed by a specialist company or disposed of in accordance with special/hazardous waste regulations/duty of care regulations and transported by a licensed waste contractor.

Completed November 2017

14. Demolition of the plant would be notified under the Construction, Design and Management regulations. The Asbestos register would be made available to whoever was carrying out the demolition works. This material would be disposed of via the appropriate designated waste disposal route.

Completed April 2025

15. A site study would then be carried out, in agreement with the Environment Agency to assess/confirm the degree of any pollution caused by the permitted activities during the lifetime of the IPPC permit. This study would then be used to assess the need for any remediation to return the site to a 'satisfactory state' as defined by the initial site investigation from the start period of the PPC permit.

Completed June 2025

Site Condition Report

Sirius was chosen by Hargreaves to complete the site condition report. This document will be submitted to NRW as part of the surrender application. As mentioned on site, it will be compared to the initial site condition report that was submitted with the original application. Internal experts will

review the document, therefore no comments have been made by Officer Evans on the report.

Settlement lagoons:

The settlement lagoons had been filled in with inert material to how they were when the permit was originally issued. A borehole was seen at the top where a ground sample was taken. Results of this would be reported in the site condition report which had been completed by Sirius.

Discharge point:

A walk to the discharge point was made to see if any settled pollution was present and the integrity of the systems. No discharge was seen and the operator had informed that there hadn't been any discharge for several months. As per the decommissioning plan, if any waters on site was unable to be discharged via W1 it was tankered off by appropriate carriers.

Site Monitoring:

It was agreed on site that the site will no longer need to carry out the monitoring as per the permit once the decommissioning plan has been completed and that any stock and fuels/oils have been removed from site.

Climate Change Agreement (Regulation 61 Notice)

NRW had sent out a climate change adaptation survey for Maxibrite to complete by the 8th of November 2025. In light that the permit is being surrendered and the fact that there is only the office that remains for the time being. It has been agreed with site that this Regulation 61 has been revoked and there is no requirement for the operator to complete the survey.

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.