

Compliance Assessment Report CAR_NRW0049638

Permit being assessed: AN0285201

For: AES FIFOOTHS POINT PS, held by SIMEC Uskmouth Power Limited

At: WEST NASH, NEWPORT, ,, NP6 2YD.

Type of assessment carried out: Site Inspection, Reason: Routine.

On 03/10/2025, between 10:00 and 12:00.

Parts of permit assessed: site operations

NRW Lead Officer: Gavin Dodd.

Report sent to: William White , Site Operations Manager , on 06/11/2025.

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

Part of permitted activity assessed (criteria)	Assessment result	Permit condition
WQ-A1 - Water Quality - Management - General management	C3 Minor	Condition 9 (C) Maintenance: The works shall be operated and maintained in accordance with good operational practice such that tanks shall be desludged at sufficient frequency and in such a manner to prevent excessive carryover of 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-A1	Provide the most recent waste transfer notes for the system if available. Ensure that waste transfer notes are provided by registered waste carriers when the system is emptied going forward.	07/11/2025

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.

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

I (Environment Officer Gavin Dodd) arrived at the SIMEC Uskmouth Power Limited site, Westport Road, Newport on Friday 3rd October 2025 at 10:00 to conduct an inspection regarding a discharge of secondary treated sewage effluent (trade effluent) to the River Usk Estuary (Permit Number AN0285201). Site Operations Manager William White was also in attendance.

Prior to inspecting the system, the history of the site was discussed briefly. The name of the site had recently changed to Ampeak Energy; I advised Mr White that the permit would need to be varied to reflect this change. The only building on site that still discharged to the treatment system was the Ampeak office, with others closed down and no longer operational. There was also a temporary canteen and toilet facilities being used by contractors on site, though this was discharging to the initial chamber of the treatment system and so was not bypassing any treatment.

The discharge from the Ampeak office was first pumped to a large holding pit with an alarm system. From there, it was pumped to the treatment system on site. The treatment system was housed within a larger concrete structure with a filter bed. The initial chamber of the system did not appear to have any form of treatment, with solid waste visible but no odour. The quality of the effluent had increased in the second chamber, with no solid waste visible. The third chamber was a large aeration tank, but due to a low level of effluent the aeration pumps were not in operation. No solid waste was visible.

On inspection of sample point, the grid reference was correct and there was a low flow in the chamber. The effluent appeared clear. There were four other drains of unknown origin also discharging to the sample point, but these were capped and did not show evidence of flow. The discharge point was accessible and had a very low flow. There was no discolouration to the discharge and no ragging/staining around the discharge point.

A discussion on advisories and permit breaches was held and the visit was concluded.



Figure 1: Sample point



Figure 2: Discharge point

Breaches

1.) Condition 9 (C) Maintenance: The works shall be operated and maintained in accordance with good operational practice such that tanks shall be desludged at sufficient frequency and in such a manner to prevent excessive carryover of suspended solids

Justification: While some paperwork was available to show the system had been inspected and there are improvements planned, recent waste transfer notes for the system were unavailable.

Actions required by date specified

1.) Provide the most recent waste transfer notes for the system if available. Ensure that waste transfer notes are provided by registered waste carriers when the system is emptied going forward.

The deadline for the above action is 7th November 2025

Advisories

Vary the permit to reflect the change in company using the following link: [Natural Resources Wales / Change \(vary\) an existing permit for a discharge of trade or mixed effluent](#)

Investigate other treatment methods of the system besides aeration

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: Gavin Dodd, Environment Officer, gavin.dodd@naturalresourceswales.gov.uk, 03000 65 3193.

If we do not receive the information requested within specified deadline and have not been informed as to why there is a delay then we may serve a Regulation 60 Notice requiring the information under Environmental Permitting (England and Wales) Regulations 2016.

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.