

Compliance Assessment Report CAR_NRW0049915

Permit being assessed: BW9999IG.

For: Chirk Particleboard Factory, **held by:** Kronospan Ltd

At: Chirk Particleboard Holyhead Road , Chirk, Wrexham, Clwyd, LL14 5NT.

Type of assessment: Site Inspection,

Reason: Routine.

On: 11/11/2025 between 09:55 and 12:05.

Parts of permit assessed: Reg 36 compliance.

NRW Lead Officer: Rebecca Harwood, accompanied by Stuart Ross.

Report sent to: Chris Emery, Director, on 25/11/2025.

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

Part of permitted activity assessed (compliance criteria)	Assessment result	Permit condition
IR2C - Installations - Operations - Operating techniques	Assessed (A)	
IR3B - Installations - Emissions and monitoring - Emissions of substances not controlled by emission limits	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

This Compliance Assessment report follows a planned visit to site on the 11 November 2025 to follow up on the Regulation 36 enforcement notice issued to the Operator on the 15 September 2025. The notice was issued in relation to dust emissions from the unloading and shredding of recycled timber on the logyard.

In response to the notice, an updated Dust Management Plan (DMP) was submitted to NRW on the 1 October 2025 along with a dust register highlighting sources of dust across the site and various mitigation measures, including new measures for the control of dust emissions arising from the unloading and shredding of recycled timber. This was accepted and approved by NRW on the 6 October 2025.

The final step of the notice was to implement the new dust mitigation measures identified in the DMP.

Officers met with the Chief Financial Officer, Operations Director, Logyard Manager and Environmental Coordinator. The DMP was viewed (document reference KC/EHS/PRO/017.A1 Dust MP, R3); and the associated work instruction (WI) Operation of Dust Suppression Systems (document reference KC.LOGY.WI.064, V1). Training records were shared with Officers. The Operator stated that the WI is in the process of being rolled out to all relevant staff and they confirmed that the chargehands and at least one member of each shift has been fully trained in the work instruction.

Officers inspected the logyard and observed the unloading of a walking floor HGV containing shredded recycled timber and also the shredding of recycled timber.

The misting system around the recycled timber unloading area was in operation at the time of the inspection. There are 11 mist air cannons positioned at height around the perimeter of the recycled timber stock pile area and these turn on / off automatically as programmed. Changes to the automation process will be made depending on weather conditions; access to change the settings and controls is restricted. The Mist Air service and maintenance agreement was seen by Officers. Some essential stock is kept on site in case of breakdowns.

Advice and Guidance: Officers recommended that a daily checklist is set up to ensure that the mist air system was operating correctly, the generator was operational with sufficient fuel and that there is a water supply to the system.

A mobile water suppression cannon was also in use as shredded timber was unloaded from the walking floor trailer and also at the shredder itself. These cannons can be redirected to ensure that dust is dampened down during these operations, reducing dust from the hopper as it is loaded and the outfeed conveyor as the material is chipped.

NRW considers that the steps within the Regulation 36 notice have been completed. NRW will continue to undertake both announced and unannounced inspections of the logyard to ensure compliance with the DMP and permit.

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.