

Compliance Assessment Report CAR_NRW0050565

Permit being assessed: BL7108IM.

For: Port Talbot Steel Works , **held by:** Tata Steel UK Limited

At: Tata Steel Strip Products UK , PORT TALBOT, PORT TALBOT, WEST GLAMORGAN, SA13 2NG.

Type of assessment: Report/Data Review,

Reason: Routine.

On: 31/10/2025.

Parts of permit assessed: See Section 4.

NRW Lead Officer: Benjamin Taylor.

Report sent to: Head of Environment , TSUK, on 04/02/2026.

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

Part of permitted activity assessed (compliance criteria)	Assessment result	Permit condition
IR3E - Installations - Emissions and monitoring - Monitoring	Action only (X)	
IR3A(1) - Installations - Emissions and monitoring - Emissions to water	C3 Minor	Permit condition 3.1.2.
IR1A - Installations - Management - General Management	C3 Minor	Permit condition 1.1.1.

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
IR3E	TSUK is to confirm to NRW whether they have undertaken PM spot extractive sampling on A34B, if it has not been undertaken then TSUK is to inform NRW of the date in which this monitoring will be completed.	Already completed

Criteria	Action needed	Complete by
IR3A(1)	TSUK is to submit the Level 3 Investigation Report and the associated Salus Report relating to the containment loss within the Pickling Line and the resulting iron exceedance that occurred during the week commencing the 24th of August 2025.	20/02/2026
IR1A	As action above.	20/02/2026

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.

We are currently considering taking enforcement action against you for the non-compliance recorded above. We will contact you in due course.

4. Details of our assessment

Introduction

Tata Steel UK Limited (TSUK) operates Port Talbot Steelworks in accordance with Permit Number EPR/BL7108IM. The Site continues to transition towards Electric Arc Furnace (EAF) Steelmaking, with aims to be fully operational by late 2027/early 2028. As a result of this transition, a number of assets have been or are in the process of being decommissioned, these have been listed within the previous CAR_NRW0046394 and subsequently will not be included within this document.

This is a review of the Quarter 3 (Q3) 2025: July to September Monitoring Submissions which were submitted by TSUK between the 27th and 31st of October 2025. It has been noted that 2025 Q3 *emissions monitoring (effluent)* was resubmitted on the 3rd of November 2025 in order to rectify a TSUK administrative error.

Scope

The following reports have been part assessed within this Compliance Assessment Report (CAR):

- 2025 Q3 discontinuous emissions monitoring (air).
- 2025 Q3 emissions monitoring (effluent).
- Schedule 5: Notifications.

Quarter 3 2025 Monitoring Submission Review

Air Emissions

Hot Mills

A34A – Reheat Furnace Duct (North)

Spot extractive sampling for A34A was not undertaken during the Q3 2025 reporting period as the asset was reported as non-operational. The previous sampling date is recorded as the 29th of August 2024 for Particulate Matter (PM) and 30th of October 2024 for gaseous parameters

A34B – Reheat Furnace Duct (South)

PM spot extractive sampling is an annual requirement and was previously undertaken on the 28th of November 2023. It is noted that there was no spot extractive sampling for PM reported as being undertaken within the 2024 calendar year.

Within the previous CAR_NRW0049233, NRW acknowledged that Reheat Furnace B was out of operation during 2024 and recommissioned in Q1 2025. An action was set within CAR_NRW0049233 requiring PM spot extractive sampling on A34B to be undertaken by the end of the next reporting period (unless otherwise agreed by NRW). As of 30th of September 2025, this action remains overdue, and TSUK has not provided NRW with a date for when PM spot extractive sampling on A34B would be undertaken. Previously, due to the number of emission points, the monitoring schedule was robust and arranged many months in advance. However, following the closure of the Heavy End, the scheduling of monitoring activities has significantly reduced. Subsequently, it is considered that TSUK had sufficient capability to ensure that monitoring requirements for A34B were met.

Action:

TSUK is to confirm to NRW whether they have undertaken PM spot extractive sampling on A34B, if it has not been undertaken then TSUK is to inform NRW of the date in which this monitoring will be completed (already completed).

Note: During the drafting of this CAR, it has been noted that TSUK have undertaken the required PM sampling on A34B within the Quarter 4 Reporting Period. Consequently, the action above has been set as completed.

Gaseous spot extractive sampling (Sulphur Dioxide and Oxides of Nitrogen) for A34B was undertaken on the 29th of September 2025. The returned results were noted as being within compliance of the emission limits specified within *Schedule 3: Table S3.5*.

Energy

Package Boiler 1

TSUK have proposed to monitor the remaining Package Boilers on an annual frequency which is in line with requirements stipulated by *Annex III Part 1: 1* of the *Medium Combustion Plant Directive* (MCPD). The asset was previously sampled on the 28th of January 2025, consequently monitoring on Package Boiler 1 was not undertaken in this reporting period.

Package Boiler 3

TSUK have proposed to monitor the remaining Package Boilers on an annually frequency which is

in line with requirements stipulated by *Annex III Part 1: 1 of the Medium Combustion Plant Directive* (MCPD). The asset was previously sampled on the 28th of January 2025, consequently monitoring on Package Boiler 3 was not undertaken in this reporting period.

Cold Mills

A21 – Pickle Line Scrubber Fume Extraction

The recorded Chlorides (as HCl) result which was collected on the 3rd of September 2025 was noted as below the 5mg/m³ spot (hourly) emission limit.

Effluent

W1 - Long Sea Outfall

The maximum volume of discharge through W1 for the quarter was 1,304m³/hour; which is below the specified limit of 6,000 m³/hour.

TSUK submitted a Schedule 5 Notification relating to the exceedance of the Iron ELVs at emission point W1, as are specified in *Schedule 3: Table S3.8*.

Iron

The iron emission limit of 5.0 mg/l was exceeded once throughout the Q3 2025 monitoring period on the week commencing:

- 24th of August 2025 (6.53mg/l) - S5N_25_07A.

TSUK investigated the above exceedance, the outcome of which was included within the Schedule 5: Notifications Part B submitted to NRW.

- S5N_25_07B – submitted on the 19th of December 2025.

24th of August 2025 - S5N_25_07A/7B

TSUK have attributed this iron exceedance to dilution of an acidified loss of containment within the pickle line, which resulted in increased run-off from the works area to enter the Ferric Chloride Solution (FCS) Tank Farm Shed. The FCS Tank Farm Shed was experiencing flooding at the time, which prompted TSUK to divert the acidified run off into the effluent treatment system (via the Deep Drain Effluent Sump), this was to prevent uplift and flotation of the vessels within the bund.

Consequently, this resulted in a lower pH resulted in the Iron to remain soluble and unable to be removed by the Clarifiers/Nautilus asset.

In response to this exceedance and subsequent investigation, TSUK has claimed they have ceased the discharge of acidified CRP flood water to the Deep Drain Effluent Sump. This change increases retention time in the system, allowing the pH setpoint to be achieved through neutralisation within either the CRP Effluent Treatment Plant (CRPETP) or via the addition of lime to the process effluent. TSUK has also outlined a long term plan to install a diversion system within the effluent plant from Base Neutralising Tank 1 to the SPL. These works aim to further improve retention time and enhance pH control within the treatment system.

Compliance:

TSUK has failed to adhere to the iron emission limit of 5mg/l as specified within *Schedule 3: Table S3.8* for W1. This is a contravention of condition 3.1.2 of the permit. Consequently, a non-compliance

score of C3 has been attributed against compliance criteria IR3A – Emissions to Water.

In addition, NRW also considers there to be a failure to enact sufficient control measures to prevent pollution, this is considered indicative of inadequate management procedures for the activity. As a result, NRW considers this to be an additional contravention of permit condition 1.1.1. Consequently, a non-compliance score of C3 has been attributed against compliance criteria IR1A – General Management.

Action:

TSUK is to submit the Level 3 Investigation Report and the associated Salus Report relating to the containment loss within the Pickling Line and the resulting iron exceedance that occurred during the week commencing the 24th of August 2025.

All other reported parameters for W1 were noted as within the limits specified by *Schedule 3: Table S3.8*.

W2 - Arnallt Culvert Inlet

There are no monitoring requirements associated with W2.

W3 – Abbey Beach Outfall

There were no reported exceedances of permitted ELVs for parameters associated with W3 throughout the Q3 2025 reporting period.

W4 – Iron Ore Stockyard into Afan Estuary

There are no specific emission limits listed against the emission point. The required monitoring was undertaken (monthly when flow detected), with the relevant data submitted.

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 required for the permit condition assessed to avoid non-compliance. No non-compliance scored at this time
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(1) – Emissions to water
- IR3A(2) – Emissions to air
- IR3A(3) – Emissions to 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.

Disputing the Content of this Compliance Assessment Report Form

If you disagree with the content of this Compliance Assessment Report form, you should submit your concerns, in writing, to the regulating officer who issued it within **15 working days** of its issue. This will be treated as a **Stage 1 review**.

If you are not satisfied with the outcome of the stage 1 review, you may request a **Stage 2 appeal**. This request must be submitted **within 21 working days** of receiving the response from the stage 1 review.

Further details on our review and appeal process are available at: [Natural Resources Wales / Appeal a regulatory decision from Natural Resources Wales](#)

Concerns Not Related to the Content of this Compliance Assessment Report Form

If your concerns do not relate to the content of the Compliance Assessment Report form, you should first attempt to resolve the issue with the regulating officer or their line manager.

If the issue remains unresolved, please contact our **Customer Contact Team**:

- **Telephone:** 0300 065 3000 (Monday to Friday, 09:00–17:00)
- **Email:** enquiries@naturalresourceswales.gov.uk

They will provide details on how to escalate your concerns through our **Complaints and Commendations procedure**.

If you are dissatisfied with our response, you may contact the **Public Services Ombudsman for Wales**:

- **Telephone:** 0300 790 0203
- **Email:** 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.