

Compliance Assessment Report CAR_NRW0050743

Permit being assessed: CB3395CX.

For: Ystum Colwyn AD, **held by:** Ystum Colwyn Farms Ltd

At: Ystum Colwyn, Meifod, Powys, SY22 6XT.

Type of assessment: Report/Data Review,

Reason: Routine.

On: 31/12/2025.

Parts of permit assessed: see below.

NRW Lead Officer: Libby Hughes.

Report sent to: owner / operator, owner / operator, on 03/03/2026.

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

Part of permitted activity assessed (compliance criteria)	Assessment result	Permit condition
IR4B - Installations - Information - Reporting	C3 Minor	4.2.1 & 4.2.2
IR3E - Installations - Emissions and monitoring - Monitoring	C3 Minor	3.5.1
IR1A - Installations - Management - General Management	C3 Minor	1.1.1

Result types are explained in more detail in the 'Important Information' section below.

Total non-compliances recorded	Total non-compliance score
3	12

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
IR4B	See actions 1 & 2 below	30/04/2026
IR3E	See action 3 below.	30/04/2026
IR1A	See Action 4 below	30/04/2026

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.

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 Appraisal Report (CAR) form has been completed in response to the annual monitoring and reporting required by the permit.

Quarterly Waste Returns

Under standard rules permit condition 4.2.2 quarterly waste submissions must be submitted to NRW within one month of the end of the quarter.

Q1 returns were submitted within the required time period.

Waste returns for quarters 2, 3, & 4 of 2025 were submitted to NRW on 16th February 2026. This will lead to a category 3 non-compliance under IR4b above.

Action 1: Ensure that in future all waste submissions are submitted to NRW within one month of the end of each quarter. i.e. Q1 waste returns for 2026 must be submitted by 30th April 2026; Quarter 2 returns by 31st July 2026; Q3 by 31st October 2026 and Q4 by January 31st 2027 at the very latest.

Annual Returns

Standard rules permit conditions 4.2.1 and table 4.2 require reports on several parameters annually, to be submitted by the 31st January each year. This includes reporting on the under and over pressure relief systems, leak detection and repair. To date this information has not been submitted to NRW. This will contribute towards the category 3 non-compliance under IR4b above.

Action 2: Provide the reports for 2025 on the under and over pressure relief systems and leak detection and repair by 30th April 2026

Air Emissions Monitoring - Annual Returns

CAR form **CAR_NRW0046435** dated 31/12/2024 advised that the report on air monitoring completed in February 2025 would be treated as the outstanding data for 2024. An action was included to:

Implement a system to ensure air emissions monitoring is planned and booked well in advance to ensure compliance with permit condition 3.5.1 for 2025.

The air emissions monitoring was carried out on 12th February 2026 and was submitted to NRW on 19th February. **Please note that this will be treated as the outstanding data for 2025.**

and not the monitoring returns for 2026

Action 3: Ensure that emissions monitoring for 2026 is completed by the end of December 2026, and the results submitted to NRW before 31st January 2027.

The results for Engine 1 are as follows:

		EXPRESSED AS A CONCENTRATION			
test parameter	run	result	uncertainty in result +/-	limit (ELV)	units
Sulphur Dioxide	R1	2.1	0.18	350	mg/m ³
Total VOCs (as Carbon) †	R1	1081	432	1000	mg/m ³
Oxides of Nitrogen (as NO ₂) †	R1	599	180	500	mg/m ³
Carbon Monoxide †	R1	610	122	1400	mg/m ³
Oxygen		8.4	0.24		% v/v
Velocity & Flow Rate Traverse	R1	35.6	0.58		m/s
Stack Gas Water Vapour		7.7	0.39		% v/v
Stack Gas Temperature		421			°C
Stack Gas Velocity		35.6	0.58		m/s
Stack Gas Flow Rate (ACTUAL)		2574	124		m ³ /hr
Stack Gas Flow Rate (REF)		723	34.8		m ³ /hr

The results for Total VOCs (1081 mg/m³) and NO₂ (599 mg/m³) both appear to exceed the permitted limits, but are [within the degree of uncertainty allowed under the permit.

The results for Engine 2 are as follows:

test parameter	EXPRESSED AS A CONCENTRATION			
	result	uncertainty in result +/-	limit (ELV)	units
Sulphur Dioxide	11.4	0.99	350	mg/m ³
Total VOCs (as Carbon) †	1154	461	1000	mg/m ³
Oxides of Nitrogen (as NO ₂) †	551	165	500	mg/m ³
Carbon Monoxide †	714	143	1400	mg/m ³
Oxygen	9.1	0.26		% v/v
Stack Gas Water Vapour	6.7	0.32		% v/v
Stack Gas Temperature	419			°C
Stack Gas Velocity	35.4	0.58		m/s
Stack Gas Flow Rate (ACTUAL)	2561	123		m ³ /hr
Stack Gas Flow Rate (REF)	685	33.0		m ³ /hr

Again, the results for Total VOCs (1154 mg/m³) and NO₂ (551 mg/m³) both appear to exceed the permitted limits, but are within the degree of uncertainty allowed under the permit.

General Management

The non-compliance scores discussed within this compliance assessment report indicate that the sites environmental management system is not robust enough to ensure compliance with the environmental permit.

A C3 non-compliance has been applied against permit condition 1.1.1a under subheading IR1A for General Management.

Action 4: Review and if necessary update the Environment Management System to ensure that monitoring and reporting is managed in line with permit condition 1.1.1.

Waste Transfer Notes - Advisory

Please be advised that the slurry coming into the AD plant from outside of Ystum Colwyn Farm holding is classed as a waste product, and should be treated as such. The link below is to the appropriate page of NRW's website.

[Natural Resources Wales / How to use manures and slurries appropriately](#)

Records must be maintained in the form of Waste Transfer Notes showing the source of any slurry entering the AD plant from outside Ystum Colwyn Farm, and also for all excess digestate which leaves Ystum Colwyn Farm. This information should be included in the quarterly waste returns.

Below is the link to an example of a bilingual waste transfer note.

[Waste Transfer Note](#)**On-farm Nutrient Management Plans - Advisory**

Records of the quantities of slurry entering the AD plant from Ystum Colwyn Farm, and also on-farm land-spreading of digestate should also be included in Ystum Colwyn's Nutrient Management Plan. Incidentally any other farms sending slurry to Ystum Colwyn AD plant should also be recording this in their Nutrient Management Plans.

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.