

## Compliance Assessment Report CAR\_NRW0051489

**Permit being assessed:** BU2489IT.

**For:** Baglan Paper Mill, **held by:** Sofidel UK Limited

**At:** Brunel Way , Baglan Energy Park, Neath, Neath Port Talbot, SA11 2FP.

**Type of assessment:** Site Inspection,

**Reason:** Routine.

**On:** 29/01/2026 between 10:00 and 13:00.

**Parts of permit assessed:** W1 Emissions .

**NRW Lead Officer:** Daren Pike.

**Report sent to:** Kerry Mackinnon, Environment Manager, on 14/04/2026.

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

Part of permitted activity assessed (compliance criteria)	Assessment result	Permit condition
IR1A - Installations - Management - General Management	Assessed (A)	
IR2B - Installations - Operations - The site	Assessed (A)	
IR3A(1) - Installations - Emissions and monitoring - Emissions to water	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

### Site Inspection Report

Operator: Sofidel UK Limited

Installation: Baglan Paper Mill, Brunel Way, Baglan Energy Park, Briton Ferry, Neath, SA11 2FP

Permit: Environmental Permit EPR/BU2489IT (V012 – consolidated)

Regulator: Natural Resources Wales

Inspection Type: Routine site inspection

Inspecting Officer: Daren Wayne Pike, Senior Officer – Industry & Waste Regulation

Inspection Outcome: Satisfactory

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#### 1. Inspection Details

- Date of inspection: 29 January 2026
- Time on site:
  - Arrival: 10:00 hrs
  - Departure: 13:00 hrs
- Attendance:
  - Daren Wayne Pike (NRW)
  - Environment Manager – Sofidel UK Limited
  - Environment Assistant – Sofidel UK Limited

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#### 2. Purpose of Inspection

The purpose of the inspection was to undertake a routine compliance check in accordance with the Environmental Permitting (England and Wales) Regulations 2016 and to assess site conditions against the requirements of Environmental Permit EPR/BU2489IT (V012). Particular attention was given to emission point W1, in line with the inspection plan.

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#### 3. Site Conditions and General Observations

Overall site conditions were good, with the installation appearing well managed and tidy. No visible signs of pollution, poor housekeeping, or operational issues were noted during the inspection.

Staff present on site were knowledgeable and cooperative, and provided clear information when requested. No environmental incidents or abnormal operating conditions were

evident at the time of the visit.

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#### **4. Emissions to Water – W1**

The inspection focused specifically on emission point W1, the permitted discharge from the on-site biological effluent treatment plant.

- The discharge point and associated infrastructure were observed to be satisfactory.
- No evidence of pollution, untreated effluent, abnormal colour, odour, or foam was observed.
- Monitoring and control arrangements appeared consistent with the requirements set out in the permit.
- No breaches of emission limits or monitoring failures were identified or reported at the time of inspection.

The W1 emission point was therefore considered compliant, with no issues or follow-up actions required.

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#### **5. New Incinerator / Combustion Plant**

During the visit, I was shown the new incinerator / medium combustion plant.

- The plant was in the commissioning stage at the time of inspection.
- It was not fully operational and was not operating under normal running conditions during the visit.
- No emissions were observed from the plant at the time of inspection.

As the unit was not yet operational, a full compliance assessment against permit emission limits was not undertaken and will be considered at a future visit once commissioning is complete and the plant becomes operational.

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#### **6. Compliance Summary**

- Site conditions: Satisfactory
  - W1 emission point: Satisfactory – no concerns identified
  - New incinerator: Observed during commissioning only
  - Permit compliance: No non-compliances identified
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#### **7. Actions and Recommendations**

No actions, compliance measures, or further information requests are required as a result

of this inspection.

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### **8. Overall Conclusion**

This was a satisfactory site inspection. The installation was being operated and managed in accordance with the requirements of Environmental Permit EPR/BU2489IT (V012). The focused inspection of emission point W1 confirmed continued acceptable performance, and no environmental risks or compliance issues were identified during the visit.

Daren Pike -

Senior Officer - South West Wales Industry Regulation Team

[daren.pike@cyfoethnaturiolcymru.gov.uk](mailto:daren.pike@cyfoethnaturiolcymru.gov.uk)

**END OF REPORT**

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](mailto: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](mailto: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.