

Compliance Assessment Report CAR_NRW0053039

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: 13/09/2026.

Parts of permit assessed: See Section 4.

NRW Lead Officer: Benjamin Taylor.

Report sent to: Head of Environment, HSE Systems & Governance, Tata Steel (UK) Ltd, on 25/09/2026.

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	C4 No impact	Permit condition 4.2.2.
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.
IR3A(1) - Installations - Emissions and monitoring - Emissions to water	Action only (X)	

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

Total non-compliances recorded	Total non-compliance score
3	8.1

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	TSUK is to ensure that they submit their Quarterly Monitoring Results within the timeframe specified by permit condition 4.2.2. Should unforeseen issues prevent TSUK from	28/10/2026

Criteria	Action needed	Complete by
	submitting within the deadline specified, this must be communicated with NRW at the earliest opportunity.	
IR3A(1)	TSUK is to ensure that they adhere to the emission limits that are specified within the permit.	25/09/2026
IR1A	As action above.	25/09/2026
IR3A(1)	Once TSUK have concluded their investigations, they are to submit this information to NRW in the form of a Schedule 5: Part B Notification without delay - Including any available information on volumes of firewater discharged via W1 and W3 and environmental impact conclusions (action ongoing from CAR_NRW0052264).	28/09/2026

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. 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 1 (Q1) & Quarter 2 (Q2) Monitoring Reports, which were submitted by TSUK to cover the January to June 2026 reporting period inclusive. Additionally, this CAR form also outlines temporary changes to the effluent monitoring requirement for W1 following a request made by the TSUK.

Scope

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

- Quarter 1 2026
 - 2026 Q1 discontinuous emissions monitoring (air).
 - 2026 Q1 emissions monitoring (effluent).
 - Schedule 5: Notifications.

- Quarter 2 2026
 - 2026 Q2 discontinuous emissions monitoring (air).
 - 2026 Q2 emissions monitoring (effluent).
 - Schedule 5: Notifications.

Quarter 1 2026 Monitoring Submission Review

TSUK submitted their Q1 Monitoring Results on the 29th of April 2026, this was outside the specified timeframe (within 28 days) that is required by permit condition 4.2.2.

Compliance:

TSUK has failed to submit their monitoring results within the timeframe specified, this is a contravention by permit condition 4.2.2. Consequently, a non-compliance score of C4 has been attributed against compliance criterion IR4B – Reporting.

Action:

TSUK is to ensure that they submit their Quarterly Monitoring Results within the timeframe specified by permit condition 4.2.2. Should unforeseen issues prevent TSUK from submitting within the deadline specified, this must be communicated with NRW at the earliest opportunity.

Air Emissions

Hot Mills

A34A – Reheat Furnace Duct (North)

Spot extractive sampling for A34A was not undertaken during the Q1 2026 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 30th of November 2025. Consequently, the asset was not monitored within this reporting period.

Gaseous spot extractive sampling (Sulphur Dioxide and Oxides of Nitrogen) for A34B was undertaken on the 12th of February 2026. 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 11th of March 2026 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 five Schedule 5 Notifications 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 five times throughout the Q1 2026 monitoring period on the week commencing:

- 4th of January 2026 (6.69mg/l) - S5N_25_12A
- 11th of January 2026 (11.14mg/l) - S5N_26_01A
- 18th of January 2026 (5.25mg/l) - S5N_26_02A
- 25th of January 2026 (612mg/l) - S5N_26_03A
- 1st of February 2026 (5.35mg/l) - S5N_26_04A

TSUK investigated the above exceedances, the outcome of which was included within the Schedule 5: Notifications Part B which were all submitted to NRW on the 11th of September 2026.

- S5N_25_12B
- S5N_26_01B
- S5N_26_02B
- S5N_26_03B
- S5N_26_04B

The above Part B Submissions all attribute their respective iron beaches to a period of pH control challenges within the treatment process associated with the Cold Rolling Mill Effluent Treatment Plant (CRMETP).

Specifically, these exceedance was caused by a combination of acidified runoff from the Pickle Line entering the effluent treatment system during the pickling process and a shortage of lime used to neutralise the acidic effluent. NRW queried this shortage, and were informed that TSUK opted to

change the pH set point of the base neutralisation tank and that there was a period of optimising the correct lime dosage. Additionally, cancellation by external parties on the selling of FCS resulted in additional processing via lime also to be required.

This subsequent reduction in pH increased the solubility of iron within the wastewater stream, reducing the effectiveness of the iron removal processes. Consequently, iron concentrations exceeded the permitted limits at the Long Sea Outfall (W1).

TSUK has stated in its submission that the source of acidified effluent from the Pickle Line has been eliminated following the cessation of operations. Future operations associated with the site's transition to EAF Steelmaking will also incorporate an Acid Regeneration Plant (ARP), which is expected to significantly reduce the generation of acidic waste streams and improve iron removal capabilities. TSUK must proceed with these improvements during the Site's transition process as planned.

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 criterion IR3A – Emissions to Water.

- In accordance with NRW's non-compliance scoring guidelines, the non-compliance scores attributed to the iron breaches over the Q1 2026 reporting period have been consolidated into one score.

Action:

TSUK is to ensure that they adhere to the emission limits that are specified within the permit.

In addition, NRW also considers there to be a failure to enact sufficient control over the process 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 criterion IR1A – General Management.

Action:

As action above.

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 Q1 2026 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.

Quarter 2 2026 Monitoring Submission Review

TSUK submitted its Q2 discontinuous air monitoring data on the 9th of July 2026, this was within the 28-day timeframe required by permit condition 4.2.2. Effluent monitoring data was submitted on the 13th of August 2026. Whilst this is outside the specified timeframe, NRW was notified on the delay before the submission deadline, and an extension was agreed.

Air Emissions

Hot Mills

A34A – Reheat Furnace Duct (North)

Spot extractive sampling for A34A was not undertaken during the Q2 2026 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 30th of November 2025. Consequently, the asset was not monitored within this reporting period.

Gaseous spot extractive sampling (Sulphur Dioxide and Oxides of Nitrogen) for A34B was undertaken on the 1st of June 2026. 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 6th of May 2026 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 1,537m³/hour; which is below the specified limit of 6,000 m³/hour.

TSUK submitted two Schedule 5 Notifications 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 two times throughout the Q2 2026 monitoring period on the week commencing:

- 31st of May 2026 (6.69mg/l) - S5N_26_06A
- 7th of June 2026 (11.14mg/l) - S5N_26_09A

The exceedances above are related to the 4th of June 2026 fire incident on the Pickle Line, and consequently have already been scored within CAR_NRW0052264. The investigation into the root cause is still ongoing. The associated action relating to this investigation remains active until the 30th of September 2026. A compliance assessment relating to the root cause will be undertaken once the investigation findings have been submitted.

Action:

Once TSUK have concluded their investigations, they are to submit this information to NRW in the form of a Schedule 5: Part B Notification without delay - Including any available information on volumes of firewater discharged via W1 and W3 and environmental impact conclusions (action ongoing from CAR_NRW0052264).

W2 - Arnallt Culvert Inlet

There are no monitoring requirements associated with W2.

W3 – Abbey Beach Outfall

There were two reported exceedances of permitted ELVs for the following parameters at the W3 outfalls

- Total Suspended Solids (221.78mg/l) – 4th of June 2026 - S5N_26_07A
- Hydrocarbons (27.54mg/l) – 4th of June 2026 - S5N_26_08A

The exceedances above are related to the 4th of June 2026 fire incident on the Pickle Line, and consequently have already been scored within CAR_NRW0052264.

TSUK have however submitted Part B Notifications (S5N_26_07B and S5N_26_08B) detailing the root cause behind these exceedances. It has been noted that the cause of the exceedances was due to the overflow of contaminated water to the W3 – ABO upstream drainage line following addition of clean EN Reservoir water in an attempt to assist in neutralising the acidified firewater runoff through dilution.

NRW have been informed that lessons learned have been incorporated into site emergency response arrangements. Procedures and guidance are to be developed and updated to improve the management of firewater and contaminated runoff during any future emergency events, reducing the likelihood of a recurrence.

NRW has concerns regarding the management of the firewater (including risk of overflow) and whether there was sufficient consideration and appropriate controls were in place to prevent or minimise pollution and any resulting impacts on the environment. However, this matter has not been compliance assessed at this time, pending the submission of further information regarding the Pickle Line fire incident by TSUK. The information provided is likely to be considered as part of future compliance assessments and may be captured within subsequent CAR forms.

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.

W1 Temporary Effluent Monitoring Requirement Changes

TSUK requested a suspension of the monitoring requirements for BOD, COD, PAHs, Cyanide, Thiocyanate, Sulphide, Phenol and Total Nitrogen specified within *Schedule 3: Table S3.8* of the permit. The basis of this request was the cessation of the Heavy End operations, which TSUK considers to have reduced the environmental risk associated with the Site compared to when it was previously fully operational.

TSUK has already submitted an application to remove or amend several activities from the permit, with the resulting variation currently awaiting issue. In addition, a separate permit application for the proposed EAF operation is expected in due course.

NRW has reviewed the request and notes that the emission limit values and associated monitoring requirements were established in line with Best Available Techniques (BAT), primarily relating to coke oven operations, which are no longer in operation at the site. NRW also recognises that the higher-risk iron and steelmaking activities associated with these emissions have ceased and that the removal of these activities from the permit is currently being progressed. Furthermore, the monitoring data provided by TSUK in support of their request demonstrates a significant reduction in the concentrations of the analytes identified above.

In light of the above, NRW agrees to the temporary suspension of monitoring for BOD, PAHs, cyanide, thiocyanate, sulphide, phenol and total nitrogen. However, monitoring for COD must continue. This agreement is made in accordance with permit condition 3.5.1, which allows alternative arrangements to be agreed in writing with NRW.

Our decision is subject to the following conditions::

- NRW reserves the right to review or withdraw this decision at any time.
- TSUK must revert back to the permitted monitoring requirements during any decommissioning or construction activities, as such activities could have the potential to

release or mobilise pollutants present on site to the discharge point.

- TSUK must formally apply to amend monitoring requirements via the permit variation process. Any permanent changes to emission limits, monitoring frequencies or monitoring parameters will need to be considered and determined through the forthcoming permit variation applications.

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.