Compliance Assessment Report CAR_NRW0053096

Permit being assessed: BL3986ID.

For: Aberthaw Works, **held by:** Tarmac Cement Limited

At: Aberthaw Works, East Aberthaw, Barry, Vale of Glamorgan, CF62 3ZR.

Type of assessment: Other,

Reason: Other.

On: 24/09/2026 between 13:50 and 14:15.

Parts of permit assessed: 1.1.1; 3.1.2.

NRW Lead Officer: Richard Taylor.

Report sent to: Tarmac Environmental Coordinator, Tarmac Environmental Coordinator, on 08/10/2026.

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	C3 Minor	1.1.1(b)
IR3A(2) - Installations - Emissions and monitoring - Emissions to air	C3 Minor	3.1.2

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
IR1A	Tarmac to implement contingency plans to provide back-up resources for environmentally critical operations such as dust suppression to ensure continuous compliance or cease operations if sufficient resources are not available	01/11/2026
IR3A(2)	Actions reportedly undertaken subject to inspection	Already completed

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.

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

1. Dust Observation

The Tarmac Aberthaw site visit was to Port Road which overlooks the site on 24th September between 2 pm and 2.15pm. It was undertaken as an additional activity to a dust sample collection from a complainant in East Aberthaw village. It was observed that vehicle movements on the site haul road and operational areas were generating dust emissions and that insufficient dust suppression measures were in place to adequately control these emissions. The Operator had not deployed sufficient resources to prevent or minimise dust arising from routine HGV movements. The lack of effective dust abatement, such as the timely use of water bowsers, dampening of haul roads, or other appropriate suppression measures resulted in visible dust generation with the potential to cause off - site amenity impacts.

The Operator therefore failed to manage and operate the regulated facility using persons and resources to ensure compliance with permit requirements. This is considered a breach of permit condition 1.1.1(b). Given the foreseeable risk of pollution and amenity impact arising from uncontrolled dust emissions, the non-compliance has been assessed as a Category 3.

A Category 3 non-compliance against Permit Condition 1.1.1(b) - Management System, has been awarded.

Tarmac had responded to an earlier site inspection on 9th July 2026, by amending their environmental management system - clinker management plan - before the deadline of 1st October to include restrictions on movements when wind speeds are above 15mph from any direction, and a halt to movements when the direction is from the East to North-East.

A further adaptation to this would be to include an entry where the plant cannot be operated with minimum resources for adequate dust suppression to prevent a similar event happening in future. Site needs to suppress dust arisings by deploying adequate dust control systems, maintaining records of dust control activities, and ensuring staff are adequately deployed to monitor and respond to dust emissions promptly.

Action - Tarmac to implement contingency plans to provide back-up resources for environmentally critical operations such as dust suppression to ensure continuous compliance or cease operations if sufficient resources are not available. Deadline November 1st 2026.

2. NOx Breach 13th July 2026

Tarmac reported a breach of permit limits for NOx to air via a schedule 5 report form to NRW emissions for a permit exceedance of 541mg/m3 against a maximum permitted 500mg/mg for A1 main stack heater tower. The reported figure had its 20% uncertainty figure applied. The reading originated from a 24-hour period from 12 noon on 13th July to 12 noon on the 14th.

This is a breach of permit condition 3.1.2 and is judged to be a minor environmental incident earning a Category 3 breach.

Tarmac have improved their operation in response by identifying the root cause being a spill back valve closed resulting in over-pressurisation and an unusable pump. This has reportedly now been rectified but will be inspected at the next site visit.

Other improvements made to prevent a reoccurrence have been;
- Check seals and filters on M401 side and switch pumps
- New quick release fittings on injectors
- Open flow control valve over 80% ensures more flow
- Ensure pressure transmitters are operational
- Inspection and clear nozzles in situ
- Investigate couplings seal material compatible
- Improved, more robust injector design

NRW are satisfied the improvements will prevent a reoccurrence, but these will be subject to further site inspection.
End

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.