Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru
Natural Resources Wales

Compliance Assessment Report for:

STANDALONE MEDIUM COMBUSTION PLANT AND SPECIFIED GENERATORS

Permit number	DB3594FC	**Operator name**	UK Power Reserve Limited

Site name	EPR- DB3594FC - Aberdare Power Station
Site address	Aberdare Power Station, C1 Trade Park, Aberamen Park Industrial Estate, Aberdare, CF44 6DA
Type of assessment	Audit

Date of assessment	09/11/2026	**Time in**	13:00	**Time out**	15:00

Parts of permit assessed	1.1.1

NRW Lead officer	Geraint Harris	**Accompanied by**	N/A
Report sent to – Name and position	Company Secretary	**Date**	09/11/2026

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

Part of permitted activity assessed (use action criteria below)	Assessment result	Permit condition
Choose an item.	Choose an item.	
Choose an item.	Choose an item.	
Choose an item.	Choose an item.	
Choose an item.	Choose an item.	

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

Total number of non-compliances recorded
0

2. What action is required?

Criteria	Action needed	Complete by

Action criteria codes are listed in the 'Important information' section below.

3. What will happen next?

You are compliant with your permit. No futher action required

4. Details of our assessment

Aberdare Power Station

NRW has reviewed the additional information provided by Sembcorp Energy UK in response to Action 1 of compliance report 20261009 relating to the transformer bund at EPR-DB3594FC - Aberdare Power Station.

Sembcorp has clarified that the issue recorded within the Environmental Aspects and Impacts Register relates to the presence of a gravel layer within the transformer bund. Sembcorp has advised that the gravel limits the extent to which the underlying bund surface can be visually inspected and therefore does not fully align with the relevant inspection recommendations contained within CIRIA C736. Sembcorp has stated that this limitation does not in itself indicate that the integrity or containment capacity of the bund has been compromised.

Sembcorp has further confirmed that routine inspections of the transformer containment area continue to be undertaken. These inspections include checks of accessible bund areas, inspections for evidence of oil leakage, and inspection of associated drainage and isolation arrangements. Sembcorp considers these measures provide ongoing pollution prevention controls despite the limitation on visual inspection beneath the gravel layer.

In relation to future inspection of the underlying containment structure, Sembcorp has advised that removal of the gravel would require electrical isolation of the transformer and therefore cannot be reasonably undertaken while the transformer remains operational. Sembcorp has confirmed that removal of the gravel and inspection of the underlying bund structure could be undertaken during an appropriate planned transformer outage. Any defects identified during such an inspection would be assessed and rectified as necessary.

NRW notes the operator's position that removal of the gravel layer cannot be readily undertaken whilst the transformer remains operational. NRW accepts that inspection of the underlying bund surface may need to be aligned with suitable maintenance activities or planned transformer outages. However, NRW considers that, in order to demonstrate the ongoing integrity of the secondary containment system, the gravel layer should be removed periodically on a risk-based basis to facilitate inspection of the underlying bund surface. The frequency of such inspections should be determined by Sembcorp, taking account of factors including bund condition, age, operational history, inspection findings and environmental risk.

Based on the information supplied, NRW considers that Sembcorp has adequately responded to the information request raised within Action 1. Action 1 is therefore considered complete and no futher information required.

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 only relating to the activity assessment
Ongoing (O)	Ongoing non-compliance, not scored

Non-compliance category	Description
C1 Major	Potential to have a major, serious, persistent and/or extensive impact or effect on the environment, people and/or property
C2 Significant	Potential to have a significant impact or effect on the environment, people and/or property
C3 Minor	Potential to have a minor or minimal impact or effect on the environment, people and/or property
C4 No environmental impact	Non-compliance at a regulated site that cannot foreseeably have any impact on the environment, people and/or property

Full list of Medium Combustion Plant and Specified Generator criteria (used in section 1 and 2):

1: Management
- MCP1A General management

2: Operations
- MCP2A Permitted activities
- MCP2B The site
- MCP2C Operating techniques
- MCP2D Improvement programme
- MCP2E Pre-operational conditions

3: Emissions and Monitoring
- MCP3A Emissions to water, air or land
- MCP3B Emissions of substances not controlled by emission limits
- MCP3C Odour
- MCP3D Noise and vibration
- MCP3E Monitoring
- MPC3F Fire

4: Information
- MCP4A Records
- MCP4B Reporting
- MCP4C Notification

Enforcement response

Any permit condition non-compliance 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 20 working days to let you know if we agree to your request.

What do I do if I disagree with the report or have a complaint?

If you disagree with this compliance assessment report, you should contact the lead officer without delay to discuss your concerns.

If you are unable to resolve the issue with the lead officer or their line manager you should contact our Customer Contact team on 0300 065 3000 (Monday to Friday 08:00 – 18:00), or email enquiries@naturalresourceswales.gov.uk for details of how to raise your dispute further through our Complaints and Commendations procedure.

If you are dissatisfied with our response, you can contact the Public Services Ombudsman for Wales by phone on 0300 7900203 or by email at 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.