

This form will report compliance with your permit as determined by an NRW officer

Site	Abstraction from the River Dee estuary	Permit Ref	24/67/10/0124		
Operator/Permit holder	Uniper UK Limited				
Regime	Water Abstraction				
Date of assessment	25/09/2019	Time in	10:00	Out	12:45
Assessment type	Site Inspection				
Parts of the permit assessed	All except abstraction point				
Lead officer's name	Rees-Jones, Jenny				
Accompanied by	Turvey, Lynsey				
Recipient's name/position	Andy Black/ Environment Manager	Date issued	04/02/2020		

Section 1 – Compliance Assessment Summary

This is based on the requirements of the permit under the Environmental Permitting Regulations or the licence under the Water Resources Act 1991 as amended by the Water Act 2003. A detailed explanation is captured in "Compliance Assessment Report Detail" (Section 2) and any actions you may need to take are given in the "Action(s)" (section 4). This summary details where we believe any non-compliance with the permit has occurred, the relevant condition and how the non-compliance has been categorised using our Compliance Classification Scheme (CCS). CCS Scores can be consolidated or suspended where appropriate, to reflect the impact of some non-compliances more accurately. For more details of our CCS scheme, contact your local office.

Permit conditions and compliance summary	CCS Category	Condition(s) breached
KEY: See Section 5 for breach categories, suspended scores will be indicated as such. A = Assessed or assessed in part (no evidence of non-compliance), X = Action only, O = Ongoing non-compliance, not scored.		

Number of breaches recorded	0	Total compliance score (see section 5 for scoring scheme)	0
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If the Number of breaches recorded is greater than zero, please see Section 3 for our proposed enforcement response

Section 2 – Compliance Assessment Report Detail

This section contains a report of our findings and will usually include information on:

- The part(s) of the permit that were assessed (eg. Maintenance, training, combustion plant, etc)
- Where the type of assessment was 'Data Review' details of the report/results triggering the assessment
- Any non-compliances identified
- Any non-compliances with directly applicable legislation
- Details of any multiple non-compliances
- Information on the compliance score accrued inc.
- Details of advice given
- Any other areas of concern
- Any actions requested
- Any examples of good practice
- A reference to photos taken

Present from Uniper: Andy Black (Environment Manager), Tony Higgins (Production Manager), Josh (Graduate)

River water is used to cool the steam turbine. Mains water is used for steam raising, because river water is brackish and desalination is not possible. Process water is reused in a semi-closed cycle.

Site have reduced the amount of water that they use since the abstraction licence was issued. Generation tops up grid where sufficient electricity is not being generated by wind, solar etc. Generation is now intermittent but more intensive.

The EPR permit contains conditions relating to discharge, and purging is carried out between 1 and 4 hours after high tide.

Only one abstraction pump is used at a time, abstracting a maximum of 3.04m³/s, as per licence conditions. Systems are in place to manage the abstraction. Tide times are generated using POLTIPS, based on tide times at Gladstone Dock, and adjusted for BST.

Abstracted volumes and flows are calculated using pump running speed and time. The pump is unable to abstract more than 3.04 m³/s. The calculation of volume uses ultrasonic head monitors to in the make up / settling pond water level to record variation in water level height. A rise in water level recorded is multiplied by the tank surface to calculate volume.

Section 7 of the licence requires that an approved integrating water meter is used at the abstraction point. Andy Black explained by email dated 10/12/19 that in 2004, following discussions with the Environment Agency, the licence was varied and a Multi Mag Meter 285 was installed. Parallel measurements were made for a period of time comparing the meter readings with the previous calculation method. Problems were experienced with the meter spiking. It was suspected that this could be due to trapped air in the pipe but this could not be verified so it was decided to use the calculation method and this has been used to report to EA / NRW for over ten years.

Andy Black reported by email on 10/12/19 that the meter is still operational and measuring a lower quantity that the calculation. They would like to run parallel measurements to see if acceptable data is measured and can be used for. If Uniper decide following this exercise to continue not to use the meter then a variation to the licence is required to reflect this.

Unable to inspect intake as this is in the middle of the Dee. Andy produced report submitted to NRW (Analysis and Reporting Team) in 2014, after they were contacted via regulation of their EPR permit about Eel Regulations requirements. Site were given exemption until 2023 (signed by Bob Edwards). The result is that they do not currently need to replace existing 3mm screens with 2mm screens. The abstraction licence requires 3mm screens.

Condition 3.1 of the abstraction licence requires that the velocity of the abstraction does no exceed 0.15m/s. This is a rare condition but is likely to be in place due to the volume of the abstraction and the potential impacts on fish movement. Uniper suggested that this could be calculated by dividing the rate of abstraction in m³/s by the area of the screens that would be in use at one time in m². Could site please provide this information by 30th March 2020.

EPR Compliance Assessment Report

**Report ID:
CAR_NRW0035784**

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Section 3 – Enforcement Response

You must take immediate action to rectify any non-compliance and prevent repetition. Non-compliance with your permit conditions constitutes an offence and can result in criminal prosecutions and/or suspension or revocation of a permit. Please read the detailed assessment in Section 2 and the steps you need to take in Section 4 below.

Section 4 – Action(s)

This section summarises the actions identified during the assessment along with the timescales for when they will need to be completed.

Criteria Ref.	CCS Category	Action required/advised	Due Date
See Section 1 above			

Section 5 – Compliance notes for the Operator

To ensure you correct actual or potential non-compliance we may

- Advise on corrective actions verbally or in writing
- Require you to take specific actions verbally or in writing
- Issue a notice
- Require you to review your procedures or management system
- Change some of the conditions of your permit
- Decide to undertake a full review of your permit

Any breach of a permit condition is an offence and we may take legal action against you

- We will normally provide advice and guidance to assist you to come back into compliance either after an offence is committed or where we consider that an offence is likely to be committed. This is without prejudice to any other enforcement response that we consider may be required.
- Enforcement action can include the issue of a formal caution, prosecution, the service of a notice and/or suspension or revocation of the permit.

See our Enforcement and Civil Sanctions guidance for further information

This report does not relieve the site operator of the responsibility to

- Ensure you comply with the conditions of the permit at all times and prevent pollution of the environment
- Ensure you comply with other legislative provisions which may apply

Non-compliance scores and categories

CCS category	Description	Score
C1	A non-compliance that could have a major environmental effect	60
C2	A non-compliance which could have a significant environmental effect	31
C3	A non-compliance which could have a minor environmental effect	4
C4	A non-compliance which has no potential environmental effect	0.1

Operational Risk Appraisal (Opra) - Compliance assessment findings may affect your Opra score and/or your charges. This score influences the resource we use to assess permit compliance.

Section 6 – General information

Data protection notice

The information on this form will be processed by the Natural Resources Wales (NRW) to fulfil its regulatory and monitoring functions and to maintain the relevant public register(s). The NRW may also use and/or disclose it in connection with:

- Offering/providing you with its literature/services relating to environmental matters
- Consulting with the public, public bodies and other organisations (eg. 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 its service
- Freedom of Information Act/Environmental Regulations request

The NRW may pass it on to its agents/representatives to do these things on its behalf. You should ensure that any persons named on this form are informed of the contents of this data protection notice.

Disclosure of information

The NRW will provide a copy of this report to the public register(s). However, if you consider that any information contained in this report should not be released to the public register(s) on the grounds of commercial confidentiality, you must write to your local area office within fifteen working days of receipt of this form indicating which information it concerns and why it should not be released, giving your reasons in full.

Customer charter

What can I do if I disagree with this compliance assessment report?

If you are unable to resolve the issue with your site officer, you should firstly discuss the matter with officer's line managers using the informal appeals procedure. If you wish to raise your dispute further through our official Complaints and Commendations procedure, phone our general enquiry number 0300 065 3000 (Mon to Fri 08.00 – 18.00) and ask for the Customer Contact team or send an email to enquiries@naturalresourceswales.gov.uk. If you are still dissatisfied you can make a complaint to the Public Services Ombudsman for Wales. For advice on how to complain to the Ombudsman phone their helpline on 0845 607 0987.

Welsh Language

If you would like this form in Welsh please contact your Regulatory Officer.