

Compliance Assessment Report

Report ID:
CAR_NRW0036390

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

Site	Aberthaw Power Station	Permit Ref	RP3133LD		
Operator/Permit holder	RWE Generation UK plc				
Regime	Installations				
Date of assessment	19/12/2019	Time in	10:00	Out	14:00
Assessment type	Report/Data Review				
Parts of the permit assessed	Monitoring and emissions				
Lead officer's name	Leakey, Antony				
Accompanied by	Martin Doherty				
Recipient's name/position	Neil Lebbern/ Station Chemist	Date issued	24/02/2020		

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
E1 - Emissions - Air	A	
E3 - Emissions - Surface water	A	
G1 - Monitoring and Records, Maintenance and Reporting - Monitoring of emissions and environment	A	

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

Aberthaw Power Station

Report review and Site Visit - 19 December 2019

Surface water monitoring

Continuous turbidity, conductivity, pH, temperature and oil in water monitoring will be implemented at the station drains outlet into the interceptor chamber downstream of the oil mop (P2 valve chamber).

RWE propose the following action levels subject to future review of performance:

pH <6 or >8.5

Turbidity >100 NTU

Oil >2.5 mg/l

Action on deviation from these ranges will be to ensure that all penstock valves are in the fully closed position and investigate the possible cause.

These or alternative levels may be considered as ELVs following a period of monitoring and incorporated into the proposed revised permit following closure of the station.

Sampling will continue at the CW outlet chamber with analysis for the existing suite of determinants and results reported monthly until decommissioning has progressed. A weekly grab sample will be bulked up to a monthly composite.

In addition, weekly grab samples will be taken from the P2 chamber to prove CEMS functionality. Without CW in service the differential limits between CW inlet and discharge (e.g. suspended solids) are no longer appropriate. Therefore, CW inlet sampling is suspended, and discharged values only are reported, noting that the associated limits (e.g. 50 mg/l for suspended solids) will no longer remain applicable.

The revised monitoring arrangements are approved and will be formalised, with any modifications considered necessary after a review of data, by permit variation.

Technical details of the continuous monitoring instruments are required to enable a review of suitability to be undertaken.

ACTION: RWE to provide details of the continuous turbidity, conductivity, pH, temperature and oil in water instruments 31 March 2020.

Permit surrender

An option for addressing permit changes needed by the end of the TNP is to leave a >50 MWth OCGT as a potentially operational listed activity (and will have been reviewed for the Bref), but remove the coal plant listed activities by variation at the partial surrender fee, leaving the whole of

the installation boundary still in the permit for full surrender at a later date following depolluting and demolition.

ACTION: RWE to provide an update on intended application timeframe and approach by 31 March 2020.

The next biota survey (IC21) will need to be undertaken and may be an ongoing requirement to demonstrate that levels are returning to pre-FGD background or if remediation is required. Timing of the next survey needs to be considered in the context of recent operation and time elapsed since the last survey.

ACTION: RWE to provide an update on proposed survey timing at next site meeting.

Dust abatement breakdown

The malfunction of flue gas conditioning plant that occurred during shakedown operation of unit 7 and the associated pre-start-up checks and tests or other measures implementation to prevent a recurrence has now been superseded by closure of the station.

Improvement Programme IC41

A final response to IC41 is no longer required following permanent closure of the station.

Boiler preservation drain down

To ensure compliance with the ammonia ELV it will be necessary to limit drainage rates of boiler preservation fluid to around 15 m³/hour or less. This issue may no longer be relevant following closure of the station.

ACTION: RWE to provide confirmation that boiler fluid drain down flow/time restriction is no longer necessary at next site meeting.

Coal stock removal

Residual coal stock following closure of the station is to be transferred to an RWE plant in Europe. Rail export was under investigation but has not been feasible. Road export started on 20 January 2020 with rates up to 1500 tonnes/day expected. Current coal stocks have a relatively high moisture content and significant fugitive dust emissions are not expected. RWE has hired additional wheel wash facilities to minimise tracking of dust by vehicles leaving the station.

Hazardous inventory removal

Most of the bulk anhydrous ammonia, hydrogen and propane stock has been removed. Bulk fuel oil remains.

A formal site closure plan was not provided with the original permit application and commitment to provide a closure plan at the time of cessation of operations was given. This plan should now be provided to enable environmental risk control measures to be reviewed.

ACTION: RWE to provide a copy of the station closure plan.

Emissions review

The station has operated units 7 and 9 during the late autumn period to reduce coal stock levels prior to final generation on 13 December 2019. All emissions and reporting are compliant with the permit requirements.

END

EPR Compliance Assessment Report

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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.