

Compliance Assessment Report CAR_NRW0038584

Permit being assessed: KP3235SS.

For: IQE (Europe) Ltd, held by IQE (Europe) Ltd

At: St. Mellons Semiconductor Plant, Pascal Close, St. Mellons, Cardiff, South Wales, CF3 0EG.

Type of assessment carried out: Site Inspection, Reason: Routine.

On 14/06/2021 - 09/08/2021 between 14:00 and 16:00.

Parts of permit assessed: Handover visit

NRW Lead Officer: Lewis Evans.

Report sent to: Andrew Patterson, HSE Manager on 11/08/2021.

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

Part of permitted activity assessed (criteria)	Assessment result	Permit condition
G1 - Monitoring and Records, Maintenance and Reporting - Monitoring of emissions and environment	C4 No impact	4.2.3

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

Total number of non-compliances recorded	Total non-compliance score
1	0.1

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
G1	Submit the emission information as soon as possible	20/08/2021

Action 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

Site: St Mellons Semiconductor Plant – IQE (Europe) Ltd

Permit Reference: EPR-KP3235SS

Date of Visit: 14th June 2021

NRW – Lewis Evans (LE)

IQE (Europe) Ltd – Andrew Patterson (AP), Scott McKinnon (SM), Andrew Mason (AM)

1. Introduction

A site induction and tour of the site was organised via email with Andrew to take place on the 14th July at 2pm. The weather on the day was dry, sunny and very hot. There was little to no wind on the day. LE introduced himself as the new NRW site regulator and the meeting was conducted with social distancing in place and meeting room well ventilated. LE had brought the relevant PPE for the site for the tour which took place after discussions. The site visit was routine and a chance for LE to get familiar with the site.

2. Site Tour

The tour involved a complete run through of the processes and facilities at IQE Europe. Due to the addition of a number of gases and new machines a toxic monitoring system has been installed at the installation which is based on continuous monitoring. The alarm system for arsine, phosphine and ammonia will give an alarm at low level and high-level concentrations of these gases. Additionally, the hydrogen alarm covers all the machines on site. There is also leak detection on the cooling water systems to prevent a major water leak to the environment.

A variation application to expand the ammonia storage has been submitted to NRW's permitting department. AP showed LE the area where the storage tanks will be stored.

CCTV on site cover all areas on site and areas of storage are gated and locked.

3. Emission Returns

For the period 01/01/2021 to 30/06/2021 Air returns were submitted on the 26th July 2021. Within this submission substances included A1 - Ammonia and Hydrogen

Chloride, A3 – Arsine, Phosphine and Ammonia. No results were produced for Arsine or Phosphate. This was due to a mechanical error with the analytical machinery for the metal analysis. Therefore, there has been a breach of the condition 4.2.3.

On the 3rd August 2021 AP emailed stating the results for Arsine or Phosphate will be sent to them on the 10th August.

Please submit the results of Arsine or Phosphate as soon as possible.

4. **Conclusions**

Overall, there were no significant issues noted, and arrangements appeared to be well managed.

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	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.

What are suspended scores?

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 and Waste action criteria (used in section 1 and 2):**A: Permitted activities**

- A1 Specified by permit

B: Infrastructure

- B1 Infrastructure – Engineering for prevention and control of emissions
- B2 Infrastructure – Closure and decommissioning
- B3 Infrastructure – Site drainage engineering (clean and foul)
- B4 Infrastructure – Containment of stored materials
- B5 Infrastructure – Plant and equipment

C: General management

- C1 General management – Staff competency/training
- C2 General management – Management system and operating procedures
- C3 General management – Materials acceptance
- C4 General management – Storage, handling, labelling and segregation

D: Incident management

- D1 Incident management – Site security
- D2 Incident management – Accidents, emergency and incident planning

E: Emissions

- E1 Emissions – Air
- E2 Emissions – Land and groundwater
- E3 Emissions – Surface water
- E4 Emissions – Sewer
- E5 Emissions – Waste

F: Amenity

- F1 Amenity – Odour
- F2 Amenity – Noise
- F3 Amenity – Dust/fibres/particulates and litter
- F4 Amenity – Pests/birds and scavengers
- F5 Amenity – Deposits on road

G: Monitoring and records, maintenance and reporting

- G1 Monitoring and records, maintenance and reporting – Monitoring of emissions and environment
- G2 Monitoring and records, maintenance and reporting – Records of activity, site diary/journal/events
- G3 Monitoring and records, maintenance and reporting – Maintenance records
- G4 Monitoring and records, maintenance and reporting – Reporting and notification to Natural Resources Wales

H: Resources efficiency

- H1 Resource efficiency – Efficient use of raw materials
- H2 Resource efficiency – Energy efficiency

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.