

Compliance Assessment Report CAR_NRW0038816

Permit being assessed: LB3790HA.

For: Anaerobic Digester, held by Mr Geraint Powell And Mrs Anabel Powell

At: Newtown, Powys, SY16 4LN.

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

On 28/09/2021 between 14:31 and 15:54.

Parts of permit assessed: See criteria listed below

NRW Lead Officer: Bethan Lewis, accompanied by Jeremy Goddard.

Report sent to: Anabel Powell, Operator and TCM on 20/10/2021.

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

Part of permitted activity assessed (criteria)	Assessment result	Permit condition
A1 - Specified by permit	Assessed (A)	
B4 - Infrastructure - Containment of stored materials	Assessed (A)	
C3 - General Management - Materials acceptance	Assessed (A)	
C4 - General Management - Storage, handling labelling and Segregation	Assessed (A)	
F1 - Amenity - Odour	Assessed (A)	
F2 - Amenity - Noise	Assessed (A)	
F3 - Amenity - Dust/fibres/particulates and litter	Assessed (A)	
F4 - Amenity - Pests/birds and scavengers	Assessed (A)	
F5 - Amenity - Deposits on road	Assessed (A)	

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

Total number of non-compliances recorded	Total non-compliance score
0	0

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?

No action required.

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

This was a routine unannounced site inspection of Glanmeheli Farm's Anaerobic Digestion (AD) Plant by Natural Resources Wales (NRW) Officers Bethan Lewis and Jeremy Goddard. The weather during this site inspection consisted of light rain and cloud cover.

On arrival at Glanmeheli, Bethan and Jeremy met with Mr. Lloyd Powell, the son of the operators Mr. Geraint Powell and Mrs. Anabel Powell. Mr. Lloyd Powell accompanied Bethan and Jeremy around the site, however Mr. Geraint Powell and Mrs. Anabel Powell also met with Bethan and Jeremy at different points during the visit.

Images 1, 2 and 3 below were taken during this visit.

Image 1 shows the storage of feedstock manure at Glanmeheli. This manure is fed into the digester shown in Image 2 via a nearby hopper. Slurry is also used as feedstock at Glanmeheli and is fed into the digester via a pipeline from the slurry store shown in Image 2. Slurry and manure account for 20% of the feedstock used, with crops making up the remaining 80%. Currently, all feedstock is produced at Glanmeheli; the site does not accept waste from elsewhere to be used as feedstock.



Image 1: Storage of feedstock manure

Image 2 below shows Glanmeheli's bunded digester and slurry store. The bund is comprised of the concrete walls seen in Image 2 and a natural bank which Mr. Lloyd Powell stated was lined. To ensure that this natural bank is suitable to be used within the bund, NRW ask that the operators explain via email how this natural bank was engineered and how it will contain material in the event of a leak or collapse. We ask that the operators do so by no later than the 10 November 2021.



Image 2: Bunded digester (left) and slurry store (right)

Finally, Image 3 below shows the storage of dried digestate at Glanmeheli. This digestate is dried in a dryer on the opposite side of the wall using heat derived from the digester. The digestate is dried to reduce its weight prior to transport and is spread to land belonging to Glanmeheli only. It was discussed with Mr. Lloyd Powell and Mrs. Anabel Powell during the site inspection whether the permit allows digestate to be dried. Condition 2.1.1 of Glanmeheli's permit states that the operator may carry out "*Treatment of digestate including screening to remove plastic residues, centrifuge or pressing, addition of thickening agents (polymers) **or drying***". There is therefore no issue with drying digestate in this way. Whilst condition 2.4.1 of the permit states that "*digestate shall be stored within containers or lagoons and should be of a design and capacity fit for purpose*", NRW are satisfied that as digestate is stored inside a building at Glanmeheli, the building acts as the appropriate container in this instance. If digestate is stored elsewhere at Glanmeheli, the operators are reminded that this should also be stored within an appropriate container or lagoon.



Image 3: Dried digestate

As can be seen from the images above, the site was found to be clean and tidy. No issues were observed on site during this visit.

In this document 'Natural Resources Wales' means the Natural Resources Body for Wales established by Article 3 of the Natural Resources Body for Wales (Establishment) order 2012.

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.