

Compliance Assessment Report CAR_NRW0038921

Permit being assessed: BU8819IV.

For: Pwllfawatkin Landfill Site EPR/BU8819IV, held by FCC Waste Services (UK) Limited

At: Pwllfawatkin Landfill Site, Pontardawe, SWANSEA, West Glamorgan, SA8 4RX.

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

On 03/11/2021 between 10:00 and 13:00.

Parts of permit assessed: 3.4, 2.7

NRW Lead Officer: Ffion Thomas.

Report sent to: Richard Thomas, Site Manager on 09/11/2021.

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

Part of permitted activity assessed (criteria)	Assessment result	Permit condition
F1 - Amenity - Odour	Assessed (A)	
B1 - Infrastructure - Engineering for prevention and control of emissions	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

Pwllfa site visit 3rd November Permeant cap engineering review and off site odour assessment.

Ffion Thomas undertook a site visit on the 3rd November. The purpose of this visit was to review permanent capping works, meet with CQA engineer inspector Nathan Rawlins assess the initial engineering capping works being undertaken, and undertake an unannounced offsite olfactory assessment.

Offsite odour assessment.

Ffion Thomas undertook an odour assessment before arriving at the Pwllfawatkin site, this had not been announced to the operators. Having previously regulated the site Ffion is aware of locations that have historically reported odours, using this knowledge along with review of the odour assessment locations used by colleagues in summer of 2021 several locations were visited as detailed in the table below.

In line with Horizontal guidance H4 appendix 1 for undertaking sniff testing no strong-tasting foods or drinks had been consumed. No perfumes or heavily scented toiletries applied. No car air freshener in place. No cold/flu symptoms were experienced.

The wind was from the North, light but sufficient to sway flags/small branches.

At each location I exited the car, walked 5 – 10m from the car paused and returned. Breathing at a normal rate. 3-5 minutes was spent at each location.

On completing the final location assessment, a call was received from FCC site manager alerting me to an odour report at Rhyd y fro. I drove and met the Site Manager at the location.

A joint odour assessment, sniff test, was undertaken walking along the footpath at xxx.

No landfill odours were detected at the time of my visits nor the joint visit location. The odour report that had been received was not substantiated.

time	Location	Observations
10:09	Lane opposite travellers well, Rhyd y fro.	No odours noted
10:16	Layby on A474 south of Abernant Ind Est north Rhyd y Fro	No odours noted
10:21	Abernant Ind est, grassed area by roundabout, near takeaway hut (food stall not operational)	No odours noted. Flags confirmed wind direction
10:34	Residential lane opposite parc y werin Brynman Rd	No odour noted
10:39	Car park opposite Nissa shops Gwaun Cae Gurwen	No landfill odour, did note cooking odours like bacon or fried food.
10:48	Play park Ger y Afon	No Odours noted
11:00	Layby on Gelli gron Rd, Rhyd y fro, opposite Waun Gron	No odours noted

Onsite inspection reviewing Permanent capping works

Ffion Thomas undertook an onsite visit as an introductory visit to review the next phase of

permanent capping engineering works.

A briefing meeting was held at the engineers site compound where Ffion met with CQA inspector Nathan Rawlins (who's CV had previously been submitted and crossed checked against LEF4 guidance and peer reviewed with the EA landfill sector and found to be acceptable)

Pwllfawtakin has an agreed phased capping CQA plan, but updated area drawing is requested. This had not yet been received at the time of my visit

ACTION FCC forward drawing of perm cap area.

Review of the previous capping layout drawings was made to ensure panel tie in could be identified.

Jones Bros were also on site as the appointed engineering contractors. Thanks to them for their time guiding the visit.

Together with Site manager we visited the tip flank being capped. The regulation layer had almost been completed, and was due to be finished by end of the day, this was later confirmed in email as being completed., the CQA plan will see geosynthetic liner and drainage membrane on the upper surface of the compacted soil regulation layer.

The upper surface of the soil layer must be places such that damage to the geosynthetics will not occur in terms of ripples or undulations, protruding sharp objects such as stones, and soft materials. Such issues are controlled by inspections required by the CQA Plan. During the visit the regulation compacted soil layer was checked and no undulations noted nor sharp objects protruding.

The soil material used was not wet and had already started to set off meeting the required compaction specifications required. The regulation layer just needed final brush down.

CQA inspector confirmed through questioning the correct depth of layer and required compaction (50>Kpa) going to confirm grid sampling to test conformance would be undertaken that afternoon.

Discussion was also had regards anchor trench tie in on the western point of this phase of capping to ensure no wind ingress/lift whilst awaiting the next phase of capping due in December to take the perm capping round this flank to the western corner meeting up with exiting perm capping.

Temporary sacrificial liner capping is also to take place at the top of the cell side wall extension to minimise rain ingress over the coming winter months and reduce odour emissions, improving gas collection.

Whilst on site it was noted that the plant used in placing the regulation layer had been tracking over temporary soil cover. This may have disturbed the upper layers of wastes, but visual inspection did not identify exposed wastes. FCC are advised to consider if further mitigation could be in place consider if additional cover in areas of high tracking.

The active tipping face had been reduced further from that seen on the 26th October, reaching the point where it would be unable to reduce any further as this would limit the

compactors movements within the area.

FCC gas contractors Infinis were seen on site and later confirmed they had been balancing gas wells and confirming the wells were on. Close liaison has been agreed and wells will only be switched off during weld works adjacent to individual wells. These will then be reconnected as soon as weld section completed. This close working will help to minimise any loss of gas utilisation and minimise odours.

For all engineering works the materials Storage must be in place and as specified in LFE7 section 5.0. the storage area was visually inspected and found to be compliant with the guidance. The storage area is flat level and free draining. A layer of geotextile is in place as a protective carpet blanket. The geotextiles were within light-tight wrap, and only stacked 2 high (% is the limit) with their lifting straps already in place to ensure no damage during handling/movements.

There has been a delay in completion of the capping works due to the availability of welding crew and wet weather slowing progress.

ACTION FCC Once capping works are completed the CQA report is 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	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.