

Compliance Assessment Report CAR_NRW0038786

Permit being assessed: HP3591EZ.

For: Gofer Bulking Station, held by Conwy County Borough Council

At: St George, Abergele, Conwy, LL22 9SE.

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

On 23/09/2021 between 10:15 and 11:15.

Parts of permit assessed: See Below

NRW Lead Officer: Philip Harper, accompanied by David Wilby.

Report sent to: Danielle Richards, Assistant Waste Manager on 17/11/2021.

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

Part of permitted activity assessed (criteria)	Assessment result	Permit condition
B1 - Infrastructure - Engineering for prevention and control of emissions	C3 Minor	2.1.1
B4 - Infrastructure - Containment of stored materials	Assessed (A)	
F1 - Amenity - Odour	Assessed (A)	
F2 - Amenity - Noise	Assessed (A)	
F3 - Amenity - Dust/fibres/particulates and litter	Assessed (A)	
F5 - Amenity - Deposits on road	Assessed (A)	
F4 - Amenity - Pests/birds and scavengers	Assessed (A)	
C3 - General Management - Materials acceptance	C3 Minor	2.3.2(a)

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

Total number of non-compliances recorded	Total non-compliance score
2	8

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
B1	Ensure that date for performing a repair is arranged with a contractor	30/11/2021
C3	Implement plan to achieve compliance at site	15/12/2021

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.

You are non-compliant with your permit.

At this time, we are issuing you with a warning for the non-compliance recorded above. Warnings may influence future enforcement response for continued or further non-compliance.

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

NRW officers Phil Harper and David Wilby visited Gofer Bulking Station, Old Gofer Site, Rhuddlan Road, St George, Abergele, LL22 9SE on the 23rd of September 2021 at 10:15. Danielle Richards Assistant Waste Manager and Jim Espley Waste Manager accompanied the inspection. The site was operational at the time of inspection.

Weather conditions were overcast.

After signing into the site, a tour of the operational area was undertaken.

B1 Engineering for the prevention and Control of Emissions

Overall, the site was well maintained. And surface drains were visibly clear of waste.

Cracks in the concrete floor were visible in the main sorting and baling building, with contaminated surface water sitting on the surface.

During the visit it was understood that the issue had already been identified and that Conwy Council were in the process of finding a contractor to repair the floor.

Cracks of this nature may compromise the integrity of the surface and allow for the contamination of ground water below and around the facility. Please note that this was highlighted in a CAR from which was issued on the 2nd of November 2020. Failure to rectify may result in escalation.

This is a permit breach with respect to permit condition **2.1.1 The operator is only authorised to carry out the activities specified in schedule 1 tables S1.1a and S1.1b (the activities)** which states the following

-All treatment of waste shall take place on an impermeable surface with sealed drainage system.

A category 3 score breach has been applied.

Action arrange for the repair of the floor to take place. Notify Natural Resources Wales when a repair date has been set.

B4 Containment of Stored Materials

All loose materials were stored appropriately in bays which were filled to an appropriate level. Sorted materials were baled and stacked while waiting collection.

C3 Materials Acceptance.

Currently the site accepts and separates comingled plastic bottles and trays with steel and aluminium cans. The appropriate waste code for this waste type 20 03 01 is not permitted under HP3591EZ.

A Category 3 breach has been applied with respect to permit condition 2.3.2(a) "Waste shall only be accepted if it is of a type listed in schedule 2 table S2.1"

Action- A plan to achieve compliance at Gofer bulking Facility should be implemented by the 15th December 2021.

F1 Odour

No odours on site or outside of the site boundary.

F2 Noise

Site was operational during the inspection, no excessive noise.

F3Dust/fibres/particulates and litter

No dust on site, no litter outside of the site boundary.

F4 Pests/birds and scavengers

No vermin on site.

F5 Deposits on road

No deposits or mud on the road outside the site.

Kind Regards

Phil Harper

Industry and Waste Regulation Officer NW

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Please note any reference within the CAR/ permit to the Environment Agency means Natural Resources Wales.

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.