

Compliance Assessment Report CAR_NRW0038944

Permit being assessed: TB3397TD.

For: GTR Aggregates and Recycling Limited, held by GTR Aggregates & Recycling Ltd
At: Waste Transfer Station, Dee Bank Industrial Estate, Boot End, Bagillt, Flintshire, CH6 6HJ.

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

On 16/11/2021 between 09:40 and 10:30.

Parts of permit assessed: 'Specified by permit' ; 'Containment of stored materials' ;
'Materials Acceptance'; 'Storage, handling & segregation'

NRW Lead Officer: Sarah Walton, accompanied by David Powell.

Report sent to: Oliver Kirkbride , Director on 19/11/2021.

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

Part of permitted activity assessed (criteria)	Assessment result	Permit condition
C1 - General Management - Staff competency/training	Action only (X)	
B4 - Infrastructure - Containment of stored materials	Action only (X)	
C3 - General Management - Materials acceptance	C3 Minor	1.1.1 (Table 1.1)

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

Total number of non-compliances recorded	Total non-compliance score
1	4

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
C1	Submit to NRW, the name of new Technically Competent Persons for the site, along with evidence of their competency.	26/11/2021
B4	Ensure that oils uncovered at the rear of the site (adjacent to the recycling building) are contained and within a bund that has 110% capacity of the total oil volume.	03/12/2021
C3	Reduce the volume of inert waste being stored on site to come in line with permit limit of 2,000 tonnes.	10/12/2021

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.

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

On Tuesday 16th November, Waste Regulation Officer Sarah Walton, conducted a site inspection. David Powell (Operations Manager), also accompanied Sarah on the inspection.

The site has been subject to a number of Enforcement Notices requiring improvements to be made to site operations. One of these Notices is still ongoing which relates to site drainage. The site is also going through changes with Technically Competent Persons which prompted a visit to check compliance.

The site currently has a temporary Technically Competent Manager (TCM) in place and efforts are being made to source a new full time TCM for the site. Because of the unexpected departure of the previous TCM and the efforts being made to acquire new Technically Competent person, this has been recorded as an action only on this CAR form. Please continue to liaise with NRW regarding the new site TCM.

Jamie Roberts (Site Manager) showed officers around the site and accompanied them throughout the inspection.





Photos showing storage of Household, Commercial & Industrial waste in Transfer Building

First of all the transfer building which holds Household, Commercial & Industrial (HC&I) waste was checked. Bays were still being used to store incoming skip waste at one end, with other bays being used to store materials such as metals and plastics picked out of the skip waste. Following advice earlier in the year, efforts were being made to keep the middle bay free to act as a natural fire break. It was noted that volume of waste being stored in these bays was nearing its limits. Please ensure waste remains in the transfer building only and does not exceed the height of 2.5m as stipulated in the EMS.

At one point during the inspection, the HC & I waste was being moved around by a site operative. This waste was visibly steaming, indicating this waste may have been left unmoved for some time and could be at a temperature that risks self combustion. As an action, ensure HC & I waste is moved through the facility efficiently and that HC&I waste is not stockpiled/stored for longer than 7 working days as per the EMS.



Baled waste cardboard and plastics in Recycling Building

The Baler machine is now on site and in operation. Approximately half the Recycling building has now been cleared of cardboard and plastics. Officers were pleased to see progress with this area of the site. This will go some way to reducing the fire risk. It is expected this building will be cleared within 2-3 weeks.



Photo showing IBC containing oil substance

Permit Condition 2.1.2 (Table 2.1): All fixed tanks (with their associated inlet & outlet pipes) used for the storage of potentially polluting liquids shall be located within a bund and on an impermeable pavement, which shall be isolated from the site drainage system and shall be constructed in accordance with specifications approved by the agency or the existing tank validated by a constructual engineering report

At the rear of the site adjacent to the Recycling Building, waste is gradually being removed that was there prior to the current permit holder acquiring the site. This has uncovered an IBC which looks to contain some kind of oil. This is being stored within breezeblocks but this is not sufficient containment for this kind of waste. Should this oil leak into the surrounding area, it could cause damage to the environment and local wildlife. This could also be costly for GTR to remedy should a spill occur. This liquid needs to be put within a bund so that if the IBC container fails, this oil is contained in a secondary container. This bund should be designed to hold 110% of the maximum possible volume of the leak or spill. **Because this waste has only recently been identified and was put there by a previous operator, this has been recorded as an action on this CAR form.**

For future reference, Oils, fats, waxes or grease should not be accepted on site as this is not a permitted waste type in the permit. It is expected there may be small quantities found in skip loads but generally this should not be allowed on site.



Storage of gas cylinders

The above photo shows waste gas cylinders being stored in a hap-hazard manner within a poorly kept metal shed. These cylinders are likely to still contain some gas and so relevant

Health and Safety advice on storage should be followed.

The above picture shows many different containers which could contain a mixture of different gases. It is good practice to segregate the gases according to the hazards involved for example, if flammable, toxic or corrosive. It is also recommended bottles are stored upright to stop acetone carrying over when the valve is open.

These cylinders were being stored in close proximity to the IBC full of oil. If a fire were to break out, this could worsen the fire, so these wastes should be stored a safe distance apart.

Further guidance on gas cylinder storage can be found on the Health and Safety Executive website.



Photo showing two skips full of waste tyres

There are 2 skips full of waste tyres being stored next to the Recycling Building. Jamie explained these were being removed to a facility based in Manchester but could not recall the name. Please be aware that tyres are not a permitted waste type and should not be accepted on site (See Appendix 1 of EMS for a full list of authorised waste types).





Photos of inert waste storage and treatment area

Permit Condition 1.1.1: No waste management operations shall be authorised by this licence unless: a) specified and undertaken in accordance with the limitations in the following table; Table 1.1 later states 'no more than 2,000 tonnes of untreated inert waste shall be stored at any one time'

It has been noted as an action on previous CAR forms to submit to NRW, evidence of the total volumes of inert waste being stored at the site. NRW has never received this information. From observations on site, it is clear that the site is storing in exceedance of 2,000 tonnes of inert wastes. Jamie was unable to show officers a running weighbridge total for volumes of waste being stored at site. This method of tracking waste volumes on site, is noted in the EMS, so it is concerning that this procedure is not being followed. If the site reaches capacity, there is no system in place to alert staff this limit has been reached, so that no more waste is accepted. A number of months have now passed since officers noted concerns about this matter. Evidence was requested to show inert waste volumes on site but to date, GTR has not issued a response to these actions.

A CCS Score 3 has been allocated for the breach of this permit condition. This is because GTR is breaching storage limits for inert waste which has the potential to have a minor impact on the environment. This is providing the inert material is coded correctly and not hazardous.

Action should be taken to reduce levels of inert waste to ensure no more than 2,000 tonnes is being stored at any one time. The EMS and site acceptance procedure should be reviewed so that there is an appropriate method to record and track waste volumes on site, to avoid any further non-compliance.

Before officers completed the inspection, site drainage issues were discussed, with the EPR Regulation 36 Notice being mentioned. There continues to be issues with access to the pumphouse as well as infrastructural damage. This is being followed up separately through steps laid out in the aforementioned Notice.

I would like to thank Jamie for this time and assistance throughout the inspection.

Should you wish to discuss or clarify anything in this CAR form, please get in touch using the details below.

Many thanks,

Sarah Walton

Waste Regulation Officer 03000 654 791

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.