

Compliance Assessment Report CAR_NRW0039428

Permit being assessed: BT4885IT.

For: Shotton Paper Mill EPR/BT4885IT, held by Shotton Mill Limited

At: WEIGHBRIDGE ROAD SHOTTON , DEESIDE, DEESIDE, CLWYD, CH5 2LL.

Type of assessment carried out: Report/Data Review, Reason: Routine.

On 31/12/2021.

Parts of permit assessed: Routine Emissions Monitoring & Reporting

NRW Lead Officer: Stuart Ross.

Report sent to: Jamie Hill , Utilities Manager on 22/02/2022.

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	Assessed (A)	
G4 - Monitoring and Records, Maintenance and Reporting - Reporting and notification to Natural Resources Wales	C4 No impact	4.2.2(a), 4.3.1
E1 - Emissions - Air	C3 Minor	3.1.2
E3 - Emissions - Surface water	Assessed (A)	
E4 - Emissions - Sewer	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
2	4.1

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
G4	Refer details section	31/03/2022
E1	Refer Details Section	31/03/2022

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

This Compliance Assessment Report follows a review of routine emissions monitoring returns for the period 01/10/21 - 31/12/21 (Quarter 4) and annual returns.

Other than those detailed below, no emission limit exceedances were recorded for emissions to air, surface water or emission point E1 (incinerator transfer to effluent plant).

All returns received with the exception of the annual report as required by permit condition 4.2.2 (a) annual review of monitoring data. This is a breach of permit condition 4.2.2 (CCS4)

Action 1 - Please provide the report as required by condition 4.2.2(a) by 31/03/22.

Action 2 - Further to the previous Compliance Assessment Report, recent advice and guidance regarding CEMS invalidation and abnormal operation, please review your 2021 quarterly routine emissions monitoring returns (CEMS data) for Boiler 7 and where changes are necessary resubmit to NRW along with the revised 6 monthly CEMS invalidation logs and cumulative period of abnormal operation. Please do so by 31/03/22.

Emission Limit Exceedances

1. 07/10/21 at 20:00 - 20:30 CO emission recorded at 244.9 mg/Nm³

It was reported that a boiler safety interlock occurred leading to the fuel supply to the plant ceasing abruptly. The source of elevated CO is a result of the incomplete combustion of waste materials on the fluidised bed.

It was also reported that CO emissions were elevated 20:30 to 21:00 but this was due to a CEMS data reporting discrepancy.

As per Action 3 below please submit a Schedule 5 (Part A & B) notification for this incident including the CEMS data issue to cover root cause and corrective actions.

2. 31/10/21 at 18:30 - 19:00, CO emission recorded at 174.4 mg/Nm³

It is reported that this occurrence was after the 30 minute period immediately following an 11kv generator fault which tripped the HP turbine and subsequently the boiler interlock. The source of elevated CO is a result of the incomplete combustion of waste materials on the fluidised bed.

The above CO emission limit exceedances are in breach of permit condition 3.1.2 and attract a consolidated CCS score of 3.

Refer Action 4.

26/11/21

It was reported that CO exceeded the half hourly CO ELV between 23:30 - 00:00.

This reportedly followed a disturbance to the HP turbine (linked to storm Arwen). Waste feed stopped at 22:10 and the plant was fired on natural gas only during the period of the elevated emissions.

It appears that the plant may have been in a state of temporary shutdown pending restart and therefore not an ELV breach. We note that the plant did not start firing solid waste again until 08:13 the following day.

This is also complicated by comments that the CEM measurement 'froze' at a fixed value between 23:30 and 00:00 with no further explanation.

In summary, and based on the information provided, it is unclear whether or not this a ELV breach based on the operational status of the plant between 23:00 - 00:00 or a CEM fault.

Action 3 - Please clarify the above points by 31/03/22.

Notifications

CO emission breaches were reported to NRW with the monitoring returns and not via a Schedule 5 notification as required by permit condition 4.3.1. This breach of permit attracts a CCS score of 4.

Action 4 - Ensure breaches of emission limit values are reported to NRW in accordance with permit condition 4.3.1. With immediate effect. Submit Schedule 5 notifications for the above CO emission limit exceedances (October 2021). Please do so by 31/03/22.

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.