

Compliance Assessment Report CAR_NRW0039645

Permit being assessed: XP3131VK.

For: Deeside Power Station, held by Deeside Power (UK) Limited

At: Deeside Power Station Weighbridge Road , Deeside Industrial Park, DEESIDE, Flintshire, CH5 2UL.

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

On 28/02/2022 between 10:00 and 12:30.

Parts of permit assessed: Various

NRW Lead Officer: Stuart Ross.

Report sent to: Colin Brooks, Site Engineer on 31/03/2022.

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)	
B2 - Infrastructure - Closure and decommissioning	Assessed (A)	
B3 - Infrastructure - Site drainage engineering (clean and foul)	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 Compliance Assessment Report follows a routine site inspection and meeting with site

management to discuss the decommissioning and demolition of the power station (parts of) following cessation of power generation March 2018 and in lieu of the permit surrender application.

Operations

Since the cessation of permitted operations the ABB GT 13E2 units have been converted to operate as synchronus compensation plants, providing services to the National Grid to maintain grid frequency. This is not a listed activity in Schedule 1 of the Environmental Permitting (England & Wales) Regulations 2016.

Processes supporting the previous CCGT operations, including the evaporative cooling towers, cooling water discharge and the production of boiler make up water within the onsite water treatment plant also ceased March 2018.

During the inspection no concerns / non compliances were noted with regard to existing operations.

Plant Demolition and Permit Surrender

A demolition contractor has been appointed to remove the cooling towers, pump house and boiler house (including x2 stacks) - this work was underway during the inspection and will also include the removal of the below ground fuel line that runs between the turbine hall and the fuel oil tank farm and road tanker offloading facility. The two fuel oil tanks were previously decommissioned and removed from site and the redundant bund wall breached.

As discussed during the inspection, it is advised that your surrender application pays particular attention to the integrity of any below ground structures that form a barrier to the potential pollution of ground and groundwater. For example, the below ground level cooling tower sumps and fuel oil transfer lines should be inspected for defects that may potentially indicate loss of containment and inform the extent of any necessary ground investigation. This should form part of the overall demonstration that the condition of the site meets the surrender tests as detailed in the regulations.

The operator reiterated their intention to make a low risk surrender application. Whilst you are entitled to apply as you see fit, please note that this is contrary to the most recent advice supplied to you by NRW's Permitting Service that this should be a full surrender application.

Surface Water Discharges

Surface water arisings from the site continue to be collected and tested prior to discharge from the site via the authorised emission point.

Post permit surrender, clean and uncontaminated surface water (rainwater from roofs and roads etc) may be discharged to the environment without the requirement for an environmental permit. You should continue to implement best practice to prevent pollution to surface water e.g. suitable primary and secondary containment of potentially polluting substances, use of oil water interceptors, drainage isolation valves etc.

Emergency Diesel Generator (EDG)

Upon permit surrender the EDG will require a Specified Generator Permit if you wish to operate it for purposes other than Emergency use.

The use of the EDG for maintenance or the use of HVO does not exempt it from the regulations.

Please note that the EDG will require a Medium Combustion Plant permit by 2029.

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.