Environment Agency	**EPR Compliance Assessment Report**	Report ID: BL9500IJ/0518246

This form will report compliance with your permit as determined by an Environment Agency officer

Site	Whinney Hill (Phase 2) Landfill EPR/BL9500IJ		Permit Ref	BL9500IJ	
Operator/ Permit holder	SUEZ RECYCLING AND RECOVERY LANCASHIRE LTD				
Date	05/09/2024		Time in	12:35	Out 15:10
What parts of the permit were assessed	Operational Areas				
Assessment	Site Inspection	EPR Activity: Installation X	Waste Op		Water Discharge
Recipient's name/position	Site Mnager				
Officer's name	[redacted]		Date issued	23/12/2024	

Section 1 - Compliance Assessment Summary

This is based on the requirements of the permit under the Environmental Permitting Regulations (EPR). A detailed explanation and any action you may need to take are given in the "Detailed Assessment of Compliance" (section 3). This summary details where we believe any non-compliance with the permit has occurred, the relevant condition and how the non-compliance has been categorised using our Compliance Classification Scheme (CCS). CCS scores can be consolidated or suspended, where appropriate, to reflect the impact of some non-compliances more accurately. For more details of our CCS scheme, contact your local office.

Permit Conditions and Compliance Summary				Condition(s) breached
a) Permitted activities	**1**. Specified by permit	A		
b) Infrastructure	**1.** Engineering for prevention & control of pollution	A		
	2. Closure & decommissioning	N		
	3. Site drainage engineering (clean & foul)	N		
	4. Containment of stored materials	N		
	5. Plant and equipment	N		
c) General management	**1**. Staff competency/ training	N		
	2. Management system & operating procedures	N		
	3. Materials acceptance	N		
	4. Storage handling, labelling, segregation	N		
d) Incident management	**1**. Site security	N		
	2. Accident, emergency & incident planning	N		
e) Emissions	**1.** Air	N		
	2. Land & Groundwater	N		
	3. Surface water	N		
	4. Sewer	N		
	5. Waste	N		
f) Amenity	**1**. Odour	A		
	2. Noise	N		
	3. Dust/fibres/particulates & litter	N		
	4. Pests, birds & scavengers	A		
	5. Deposits on road	A		
g) Monitoring and records, maintenance and reporting	**1**. Monitoring of emissions & environment	N		
	2. Records of activity, site diary, journal & events	N		
	3. Maintenance records	N		
	4. Reporting & notification	N		
h) Resource efficiency	**1**. Efficient use of raw materials	N		
	2. Energy	N		

KEY: **C1, C2, C3, C4** = CCS breach category **(* suspended scores are marked with an asterisk),**
A = Assessed (no evidence of non-compliance), **N** = Not assessed, **NA** = Not Applicable, **O** = Ongoing non-compliance – not scored
MSA, **MSB**, **TCM** = Management System condition A, Management System Condition B and Technically Competent Manager condition which are environmental permit conditions from Part 3 of schedule9 EPR (see notes in Section 5/6).

Number of breaches recorded	0	**Total compliance score** (see section 5 for scoring scheme)	0

If the Total No Breaches is greater than zero, then please see Section 3 for details of our proposed enforcement response

Section 2 – Compliance Assessment Report Detail

This section contains a report of our findings and will usually include information on:

- the part(s) of the permit that were assessed (e.g. maintenance, training, combustion plant, etc)
- where the type of assessment was 'Data Review' details of the report/results triggering the assessment
- any non-compliances identified
- any non-compliances with directly applicable legislation
- details of any multiple non-compliances
- information on the compliance score accrued inc. details of suspended or consolidated scores.
- details of advice given
- any other areas of concern
- all actions requested
- any examples of good practice.
- a reference to photos taken

This report should be clear, comprehensive, unambiguous and normally completed within 14 days of an assessment.

This was an unannounced site visit. Weather was overcast with rain showers light wind from the south west.

Officers wore appropriate PPE including gas alarms. We signed in at the weighbridge and were always accompanied by the site manager.
Before going on site, there was a discussion about the apparent reduction in complaints and the subjective impression that there were fewer gulls on site than there had been. There was also a discussion about CQA issues & a recent score on a CAR form relating to not notifying of a change of source of liner protection material. The site operator commented that they were meeting with Sirius, their engineering consultant to discuss the perceived poor performance.

Heading up on to site, we saw the engineering contractor progressing capping. There was a discussion with the CQA engineer about the tie into the PPC bund. There appeared to be some leachate pooling adjacent to the capping works, which the site manager undertook to have tested and disposed of appropriately.

From the viewing point above the current cell, operations appeared to be continuing as usual. At this time it is difficult for waste vehicles to get close to the tip face, so waste is being pushed by dozer and compactor into position. This results in a relatively long, if narrow area of open waste. Raytex temporary cover material has been employed as well as inert materials being used on the finished flanks.

At the time of the visit the number of birds around the site was in the 10's (rather than 100's) . The bird control contractor is using a laser in addition to the gas cannon and falcons. I consider the operator to be employing appropriate measures at this time.

An unbunded IBC of AdBlue Diesel Exhaust Fluid (DEF) was noted on the capped area This is understood to be associated with the engineering contractor. Whilst AdBlue itself has low eco-toxicity levels, the urea found within it can be polluting to groundwater and watercourses. Spillages are likely to occur with poor storage. Furthermore, urea degrades in sunlight making the DEF less effective. Environment Agency guidance (Pollution Prevention Technical Information Note – Information on Storing and using AdBlue – updated Nov 2009) s
The site manager undertook to get this removed.

Section 3- Enforcement Response **Only one of the boxes below should be ticked**

You must take immediate action to rectify any non-compliance and prevent repetition.
Non-compliance with your permit conditions constitutes an offence* and can result in criminal prosecutions and/or suspension or revocation of a permit. Please read the detailed assessment in Section 2 and the steps you need to take in Section 4 below.

Non-compliance with **MSA, **MSB** & **TCM** do not constitute an offence but can result in the service of a compliance, suspension and/or revocation notice.*

Other than the provision of advice and guidance, at present we do not intend to take further enforcement action in respect of the non-compliance identified above. This does not preclude us from taking enforcement action if further relevant information comes to light or advice isn't followed.	
In respect of the above non-compliance you have been issued with a warning. At present we do not intend to take further enforcement action. This does not preclude us from taking additional enforcement action if further relevant information comes to light or offences continue.	

We will now consider what enforcement action is appropriate and notify you, referencing this form.	

Section 4- Action(s)

Where non-compliance has been detected and an enforcement response has been selected above, this section summarises the steps you need to take to return to compliance and also provides timescales for this to be done.

Criteria Ref.	CCS Category	Action Required / Advised	Due Date
See Section 1 above			

Section 5 - Compliance notes for the Operator

To ensure you correct actual or potential non-compliance we may

- advise on corrective actions verbally or in writing
- require you to take specific actions in writing
- issue a notice
- require you to review your procedures or management system
- change some of the conditions of your permit
- decide to undertake a full review of your permit

Any breach of a permit condition is an offence* and we may take legal action against you.

- We will normally provide advice and guidance to assist you to come back into compliance either after an offence is committed or where we consider that an offence is likely to be committed. This is without prejudice to any other enforcement response that we consider may be required.
- Enforcement action can include the issue of a formal caution, prosecution, the service of a notice and or suspension or revocation of the permit.
- A civil sanction Enforcement Undertaking (EU) offer may also be available to you as an alternative enforcement response for this/these offence(s).

See our Enforcement and Civil Sanctions guidance for further information

A breach of permit condition **MSA, **MSB** & **TCM** is not an offence but may result in the service of a notice requiring compliance and/or suspension or revocation of the permit.*

This report does not relieve the site operator of the responsibility to

- ensure you comply with the conditions of the permit at all times and prevent pollution of the environment
- ensure you comply with other legislative provisions which may apply.

Non-compliance scores and categories

CCS category	Description	Score
C1	A non-compliance which could have a **major** environmental effect	60
C2	A non-compliance which could have a **significant** environmental effect	31
C3	A non-compliance which could have a **minor** environmental effect	4
C4	A non-compliance which has **no** potential environmental effect	0.1

Operational Risk Appraisal (Opra) - Compliance assessment findings may affect your Opra score and/or your charges. This score influences the resource we use to assess permit compliance.

MSA, MSB & TCM are conditions inserted into certain permits by Schedule 9 Part 3 EPR

MSA requires operators to manage and operate in accordance with a written management system that identifies and minimises risks of pollution.

MSB requires that the management system must be reviewed, kept up-to-date and a written record kept of this.

TCM requires the submission of technical competence information.

Section 6 – General Information

Data protection notice

The information on this form will be processed by the Environment Agency to fulfill its regulatory and monitoring functions and to maintain the relevant public register(s). The Environment Agency may also use and/or disclose it in connection with:

- offering/providing you with its literature/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 and taking any resulting action
- preventing breaches of environmental law
- assessing customer service satisfaction and improving its service
- Freedom of Information Act/Environmental Information Regulations request.

The Environment Agency may pass it on to its agents/representatives to do these things on its behalf. You should ensure that any persons named on this form are informed of the contents of this data protection notice.

Disclosure of information

The Environment Agency will provide a copy of this report to the public register(s). However, if you consider that any information contained in this report should not be released to the public register(s) on the grounds of commercial confidentiality, you must write to your local area office within 28 days of receipt of this form indicating which information it concerns and why it should not be released, giving your reasons in full.

Customer charter

What can I do if I disagree with this compliance assessment report?

If a permit holder disagrees with the CAR form, they should raise their concerns to the officer or team which issued the form. This must be done within 14 calendar days of receipt. If the response does not resolve the issue, a permit holder can request an appeal of the regulatory decision. This request must be made within 28 calendar days of receipt of the response. More details on our regulatory appeals process can be found at https://www.gov.uk/guidance/appeal-a-regulatory-decision-from-the-environment-agency.

If you are still dissatisfied, you can make a complaint to the Ombudsman. For advice on how to complain to the Parliamentary and Health Service Ombudsman phone their helpline on 0345 015 4033.