Investigation Report

Investigation Report - June 2019

Date	1 – 31 June 2019
Time	Continuous monitoring throughout May 2019
Monitoring Location	Continuous Environmental Monitoring System (CEMS)
Parameter	Various emission parameters of the Cogeneration Units (CHP)
Exceedance Description	 and Ammonia Stripping Plan (ASP) 1. Continuous monitoring was carried out for CAPCS, CHP and ASP throughout the reporting period using the CEMS. According to the EM&A Manual, exceedance is considered if the emission concentration of the concerned pollutants is higher than the emission limits stated in Tables 2.2, 2.3 and 2.5 of the EM&A Manual (Version E) for CAPCS, CHP and ASP respectively. The concentration of the concerned air pollutants were monitored on-line by the CEMS. Exceedances of various emission parameters were recorded on the CEMS including: NO_x and VOC (including methane) in the CHP; and Dust, NO_x, VOCs and NH₃ in the ASP. 2. According to the Contractor, the plant was receiving around 100 tonnes of SSOW daily and was operated normally. 3. CHP setting was undergoing fine-tuning for performance optimisation which leads to the ineffective removal of NO_x and VOC (including methane) at a certain period of time. 4. The Contractor explained that the exceedances recorded in Dust, NO_x, SO₂ and NH₃ in the ASP was because the thermal combustion unit of the ASP still require tuning to the first of the table to the table table to the table table to the table ta
	optimise the combustion efficiency. In addition, the Contractor reported that the tuning of the thermal combustion unit took longer than anticipated resulting in
	the many exceedances recorded during the reporting period.
Action Taken / Action to be Taken	 The number of exceedances in CHP has drastically decreased since the beginning of the operation period. Only 1 exceedance on NO_x and 1 exceedance on VOC (including methane) were recorded from the 3 CHP stacks during this reporting period. Continuous optimisation of CHP and re-adjustment of NO_x and VOC (including methane) control for CHP has been carried out to further reduce the exceedance. The re-adjustment is expected to be completed in the next reporting period. Tuning of the thermal combustion unit of the ASP was carried out by the ASP suuplier to optimise the combustion efficiency in order to remove the

Investigation Report of CEMS Exceedances

	pollutants in the biogas. The ASP supplier gave the
	Contractor a set of procedures for the fine-tuning of the
	ASP. By having the procedure guidelines, the
	Contractor can perform the ASP fine tuning in-house
	without relying on the ASP supplier which can
	minimise the extent of exceedances. The fine tuning is
	expected to be completed in the next reporting period.
Remedial Works and	The Contractor is recommended to closely monitor the
Follow-up Actions	processes, including the combustion of biogas in the ASP to
-	avoid the reoccurrence of similar problems. MT will carry out
	follow-up audit regarding the progress next month.

Prepared by:	Bonia Leung, MT Representative
Date	10 July 2019

OSCAR Bioenergy Joint Venture EP/SP/61/10 - Organic Resources Recovery Centre Phase 1

Date	18 June 2019
Time	17:30
Monitoring Location	Biogas system
Parameter	Biogas pressure
Description	Biogas release as a result of unstable power supply by CLP on 18 June 2019.
Action Taken / Action to be	The Contractor closed the biogas holder inlet valve to
Taken	safeguard the biogas system as per emergency response procedures. The biogas pressure began to build up in the biogas system (before the biogas holder) resulting in the biogas being released through one of the pressure relief valves as per designed scenario to safeguard the biogas tanks.
Remedial Works and Follow-up Actions	The Contractor resumed the power supply from CLP and the biogas booster set. A thorough check was conducted to confirm the situation was under control with stable performance.

Investigation Report of Biogas Leakage

Prepared by: Bonia Leung, MT Representative Date 10 October 2019

OSCAR Bioenergy Joint Venture EP/SP/61/10 – Organic Resources Recovery Centre Phase 1

Extract of the Incident Notification Form on Release of Biogas to the Environment Prepared by the Contractor

Description of the Process

The purpose of Organic Resources Recovery Centre Phase 1 (ORRC1 or the facility) is to convert source-separated organic waste into compost and biogas through proven biological treatment technologies. The biogas generated, after post-treatment including sulphur and water removal, would be in the on-site Combined Heat and Power (CHP) generators to generate hot water and electricity to be used on site and exported to the China Light and Power (CLP) power grid network.

The major equipment involving biogas includes:

- Anaerobic Digesters (AD)
- Suspension Buffer Tank (SBT)
- Desulphurisation Column
- Gasholder (GH)
- Dehumidifier
- Biogas booster system

The biogas consumers include:

- Emergency Flare
- Combined Heat and Power (CHP) Unit
- Ammonia Stripping Plant (ASP)

Description of the Incident

Time	Event
18 June 2019	High biogas production rate was observed in the afternoon. Three (3) Combined Heat and Power (CHPs) Units were in operation to consume the biogas. The Ammonia Stripping plant (ASP) was offline due to planned maintenance works. Due to the high biogas production rate, the biogas holder was observed to be high (>90%).
16:30	Seeing the biogas holder was reaching to high level, team members attended to the Standby Flare System on site to check if the standby flare can be ready to start. It resulted in identifying that the air compressor has overheated, and the cabinet was also found to be hot to the touch. The compressed air was not available for the pneumatic actuation valve Standby flare not able to be activated.
16:45	Preparation and installation work for the addition a standby pneumatic line to be attached the plant-wide compressed air system. During the repair of the standby flare, the biogas booster set was tripped resulted in the CHPs to shut down due to the lack of fuel. The booster set was immediately reset and restarted. CHPs in turn were then restarted to resume to reduce the level in the Biogas holder. Three CHPs were back into operation.
17:30	The electrical connections Q1 and Q2 opened. Later all CHPs tripped and loss of electrical power to the entire facility. The status electrical connections status of H1 and H2 were not changed.
17:48	After immediate diagnosis at the HV switch room and clearing the fault of Q1, the Q1 connection was closed allowing electricity back into the facility from CLP. After the power was

OSCAR Bioenergy Joint Venture EP/SP/61/10 – Organic Resources Recovery Centre Phase 1

	resumed to the plant, an attempt to restart the Booster Set was conducted. However, the Booster Set failed to start due to the lack of compressed air. Immediate review of the system was undertaken to resolve this issue. A temporary pneumatic line was laid from the AD Area to the Booster Set to provide compressed air to the system. During the course of repairing, the biogas pressure was observed to building up and biogas started to release from the pressure safety valve of the biogas holder (@25 mbar). All repair team members were evacuated away from the booster area until the working condition was able to the secured safely. According to the emergency response procedure, the biogas valves (3040-V-105 & 3040-V-205) at the exit of the each of the Desulphurization columns were manually closed to prevent further biogas from flowing to the Biogas Holder. The arrangement discontinued the pressure build up at the biogas holder.
18:55	Once the valves were closed, the PSV of the Biogas Holder was allowed to release biogas until the pressure was reduced below 25 mbar. After the pressure stabilized below the release set point of the biogas holder, the biogas stopped releasing from the PSV of biogas holder and site monitoring results confirmed the booster area is free from biogas. The team members returned to complete the repair of the booster set and temporary compressed airline for the Booster Set system. The Booster Set system was then repaired and restarted to allow biogas to be fed to the CHPS. One (1) CHP was then restarted to attempt to reduce the level in the Biogas Holder. Later the ASP was also operated. After the biogas holder feeding line was isolated from 3040-V105 & 3040-V-205, the biogas pressure before the isolation was built up in the AD and SBT tanks resulting in the biogas being released through the pressure relief valves (33 mbar) as per designed scenario. The gas concentration was closely monitored at ground level. The monitoring results were consistent to the modelling results from Quantitative Risk Analysis report that he biogas released from pressure safety valves was able to dispersed to a safe level on ground.
19:15	Standby Flare repair works were also completed to allow the unit to begin flaring the biogas.
19:45	In conjunction with the start-up of the Standby Flare, the Desulphurization System's exit valves were opened slowly in incremental amounts to resume flow of the biogas from Ads to the Biogas Holder. At this time, one (1) CHP, the ASP and the Standby Flare were operating to consume the gas.
20:00	The biogas Holder level was reduced to approximately 45%. The facility resumed to normal operations using the CHP and ASP to control the biogas consumption.

Immediate Corrective Actions

- The Contractor immediately arranged onsite personnel for evacuation except the Emergency Response Team (including Maintenance Team, Operation Team and QHSE).
- The Contractor maintained close monitoring the gas concentration around the site.
- The Contractor arranged to resume all essential plant equipment in safe condition.
- The Contractor arranged to conduct a thorough check to confirm the situation was under control with stable performance at around 20:00.
- The Contractor also carried out indoor ambient air monitoring at all RCV bays to confirm the condition was safe to resume waste reception.
- Food waste reception was suspended for about 2 hours. 4 trucks were arranged to wait at a safe location (outside the main gate of the plant).
- Food waste reception resumed to normal at around 20:30.

Root Cause Analysis

1. Biogas production rate was higher (1,200 m³/h) than normal because of the Organic Loading Rate was not calculated precisely enough. The OLR was higher by 50% that

EP/SP/61/10 - Organic Resources Recovery Centre Phase 1

precise day (approx.. 14 tons of VS fed to the Ads on 17 June 2019, compared to an average feeding fo 9 tons of VS fed to the Ads on the previous days):

- a. Variation on nature of SSOW could result fluctuation of organic loading.
- b. The SBT Jet Mixing efficiency is unstable (based on the SBT level) and produces suspension of variable moisture content
- c. In these conditions, due to improper Jet Mixing, sampling the SBT three times a week appeared to be not frequent enough.
- 2. Flare not able to be activated due to loss of compressed air to actuation valves. The air compressor of the flare system found defective. The root cause of the system was due to the overheating of the air compressor in the standby flare system. This was the primary source of compressed air to the system. At the time of the incident, there was no redundant supply of compressed air installed and maintenance works were started to provide redundant compressed air to the system.
- 3. HV switch gears Q1 and Q2 tripped and later resulted all CHPs tripped. (HV contractor collected plant data to study the cause of Q1 & Q2 trip).
 - a. No biogas pressure from the booster set because the flare system was switched from remote to local to conduct the repair works which caused the biogas booster set to enter a controlled shutdown the CHPs to Tip.
 - b. CHPs could not run due to Q1 & Q2 tripped from the investigation report, it was found that a voltage drop occurred, and the relays tripped to protect the system. However the report is inconclusive as to why a voltage drop occurred on that day. So further investigation will be carried out by subcontractor to provide a more thorough report to see if they can determine the root cause of Q1 & Q2.
- 4. The plant black out period accelerated the accumulation of biogas and eventually biogas pressure reached the release pressure set point. Standby flare could not function because lack of compressed air and electricity to power the control panel to allow the ignition of the flare.

Description of Corrective Actions (1)

- 1. To install a temporary pneumatic line to emergency flare system
- 2. To replace defective air compressor of emergency flare
- 3. To keep close monitoring the biogas production rate and its content
- 4. To arrange to test run the Emergency flare regularly (at least weekly to ensure the flare is well functioning
- 5. To inspect and diagnosis the function of Q1 and Q2

Description of Preventive Actions (2)

- 1. Monitoring & Prediction of Biogas Production:
 - a. To define a target OLR per day with/without Asp in operation
 - b. To measure the suspension moisture content of the SBT during Monday to Friday.

⁽¹⁾ The corrective actions have been closed on 30 June 2019

⁽²⁾ The preventive actions have been closed on 30 June 2019.

OSCAR Bioenergy Joint Venture

EP/SP/61/10 - Organic Resources Recovery Centre Phase 1

- c. To give updated Ads feeding guidelines every day based on the actual SBT moisture content and OLR.
- 2. Monitoring & Inspection of standby fare system
 - a. Implement regular testing flare (weekly)
 - b. Install redundant compressed air source
 - c. Air compressor will automatically start to maintain a set pressure if there is a failure in the plant compressed air system
 - d. Implemented daily visual check for air compressor.
- 3. Training & Inspection of relays
 - a. Addition training provided to the MT and operation staff
 - b. Routine Maintenance: Regular visual inspection of the relays to ensure they are running normally. Additionally the sub-contractor for the high voltage system can come in on a regular basis to do a software diagnostic on the relays to ensure they are operation normally.
 - c. Annually: a "WR2" (as required by the EMSD) is conducted on an annual basis for the high voltage system which does a complete power down of the relays. This allows the relays' hardware to be inspected more thoroughly to ensure they are functioning normally.
- 4. Emergency response during black out period
 - a. Supply power from UPS to the control panel of the standby flare and control panel for duty standby compressor.
 - b. Establish SOP to resume plant after blackout.

Investigation Report - July 2019

Date	1 – 31 July 2019
Time	Continuous monitoring throughout July 2019
Monitoring Location	Continuous Environmental Monitoring System (CEMS)
Parameter	Various emission parameters of the Cogeneration Units (CHP)
	and Ammonia Stripping Plan (ASP)
Exceedance Description	 Continuous monitoring was carried out for CAPCS, CHP and ASP throughout the reporting period using the CEMS. According to the EM&A Manual, exceedance is considered if the emission concentration of the concerned pollutants is higher than the emission limits stated in Tables 2.2, 2.3 and 2.5 of the EM&A Manual (Version E) for CAPCS, CHP and ASP respectively. The concentration of the concerned air pollutants were monitored on-line by the CEMS. Exceedances of various emission parameters were recorded on the CEMS including: NO_x, SO₂ and VOC (including methane) in the CHP; and NO_x, SO₂ and NH₃ in the ASP.
	 NO_x, SO₂ and NH₃ in the ASP. According to the Contractor, the plant was receiving around 100 tonnes of SSOW daily and was operated normally. CHP setting was undergoing fine-tuning for performance optimisation which leads to the ineffective removal of NO_x and VOC (including methane) at a certain period of
	 time. The Contractor explained that the exceedances recorded in NO_x and NH₃ in the ASP was because the thermal combustion unit of the ASP still require tuning to optimise the combustion efficiency.
Action Taken / Action to be Taken	 The number of exceedances in CHP has further decreased since the beginning of the operation period. It was arranged with the supplier of CHPs to check the performance of CHPs onsite during the reporting period. The supplier will conduct a detailed investigation of the remaining exceedance recorded on the CHPs. After the investigation, the Contractor will perform the maintenance work according to suggestions raised by the supplier. The maintenance work is expected to complete in the next reporting period. The number of exceedances in ASP has significantly decreased since the beginning of the operation period. It was arranged with the supplier of the ASP to modify the system onsite. The supplier suggested that main components required for the modification work, i.e. an

Investigation Report of CEMS Exceedances

	air cooler, will be delivered to Hong Kong by early October 2019. Meanwhile, the supplier will perform some minor modification work, such as the replacement of control valves in the next reporting period. The Contractor is developing a detailed schedule with the supplier to ensure preparatory works are completed for the major modification work to take place. The operation team of the Contractor will also liaise and agree with the supplier for any shutdown period required to replace and install the equipment.
Remedial Works and	The Contractor is recommended to closely monitor the
Follow-up Actions	processes, including the combustion of biogas in the ASP to
	avoid the reoccurrence of similar problems. MT will carry out follow-up audit regarding the progress next month.

Prepared by:	Bonia Leung, MT Representative
Date	14 August 2019

Investigation Report - August 2019

Investigation Report of CEMS Exceedances	

Date	1 – 31 August 2019
Time	Continuous monitoring throughout July 2019
Monitoring Location	Continuous Environmental Monitoring System (CEMS)
Parameter	Various emission parameters of the Centralised Air Pollution
	Unit (CAPCS), Cogeneration Units (CHP) and Ammonia
	Stripping Plan (ASP)
Exceedance Description	 Shipping Plan (ASP) Continuous monitoring was carried out for CAPCS, CHP and ASP throughout the reporting period using the CEMS. According to the EM&A Manual, exceedance is considered if the emission concentration of the concerned pollutants is higher than the emission limits stated in Tables 2.2, 2.3 and 2.5 of the EM&A Manual (Version E) for CAPCS, CHP and ASP respectively. The concentration of the concerned air pollutants were monitored on-line by the CEMS. Exceedances of various emission parameters were recorded on the CEMS including: Odour (including NH₃ & H₂S) in the CAPCS; Dust (or TSP), NO_x, SO₂, HCl and HF in the CHP; and Carbon Monoxide, NO_x, SO₂, VOCs (including methane) and NH₃ in the ASP. According to the Contractor, the plant was receiving around 100 tonnes of SSOW daily and was operated normally. The chemical dosing system of the CAPCS was undergoing optimisation. The new setting of the chemical dosing system could not effectively remove the odourous gas (mainly NH₃) and caused exceedances of odour limits in the CAPCS. CHP setting was undergoing fine-tuning for performance optimisation which leads to the ineffective removal of NO_x and VOC (including methane) at a certain period of time. The Contractor explained that the exceedances recorded in the ASP was because the thermal combustion unit of the ASP still require tuning to optimise the combustion
Action Taken / Action to be	efficiency.The setting of the chemical dosing system has been
Taken	• The setting of the chemical dosing system has been revised to its original during this reporting period; the
	chemical dosing system can effectively remove
	odourous gases at the CAPCS.
	 It was arranged with the supplier of CHPs to check the
	performance of CHPs onsite during the reporting
	period. The supplier will conduct a detailed
	investigation of the remaining exceedance recorded on

	the CIDe After the increation the Contract and it
	the CHPs. After the investigation, the Contractor will
	perform the maintenance work according to
	suggestions raised by the supplier. The maintenance
	work is expected to complete in the next reporting period.
	• It was arranged with the supplier of the ASP to modify
	the system onsite The supplier suggested that main
	components required for the modification work, i.e. an
	air cooler, will be delivered to Hong Kong by early
	October 2019. Meanwhile, the supplier will perform
	some minor modification work, such as the
	replacement of control valves in the next reporting
	period. The Contractor is developing a detailed
	schedule with the supplier to ensure preparatory
	works are completed for the major modification work
	to take place. The operation team of the Contractor
	will also liaise and agree with the supplier for any
	shutdown period required to replace and install the
	equipment.
Remedial Works and	The Contractor is recommended to closely monitor the
Follow-up Actions	processes, including the combustion of biogas in the ASP to
	avoid the reoccurrence of similar problems. MT will carry out
	follow-up audit regarding the progress next month.

Prepared by:	Bonia Leung, MT Representative
Date	10 September 2019

Date	25 August 2019
Time	12:35 am
Monitoring Location	Biogas system
Parameter	Biogas pressure
Exceedance Description	Biogas release as a result of unstable power supply by CLP on 25 August 2019.
Action Taken / Action to be Taken	The Contractor closed the biogas holder inlet valve to safeguard the biogas system as per emergency response procedures. The biogas pressure began to build up in the biogas system (before the biogas holder) resulting in the biogas being released through one of the pressure relief valves as per designed scenario to safeguard the biogas tanks.
Remedial Works and Follow-up Actions	The Contractor resumed the power supply from CLP and the biogas booster set. A thorough check was conducted to confirm the situation was under control with stable performance at around 5am.

Investigation Report of Biogas Leakage

Prepared by: Bonia Leung, MT Representative

Date

11 January 2020

Extract of the Incident Notification Form on Release of Biogas to the Environment Prepared by the Contractor

Description of the Process

The purpose of Organic Resources Recovery Centre Phase 1 (ORRC1 or the facility) is to convert source-separated organic waste into compost and biogas through proven biological treatment technologies. The biogas generated, after post-treatment including sulphur and water removal, would be in the on-site Combined Heat and Power (CHP) generators to generate hot water and electricity to be used on site and exported to the China Light and Power (CLP) power grid network.

The major equipment involving biogas includes:

- Anaerobic Digesters (AD)
- Suspension Buffer Tank (SBT)
- Desulphurisation Column
- Gasholder (GH)
- Dehumidifier
- Biogas booster system

The biogas consumers include:

- Emergency Flare
- Combined Heat and Power (CHP) Unit
- Ammonia Stripping Plant (ASP)

Description of the Incident

Time (Roughly)	Event
00:35	The electrical connections Q1 and Q2 opened because of the unstable power supply by CLP (Confirmed by CLP that there was a problem with their overhead lines). CHP2 & 3 were supply by CLP (Confirmed by CLP that there was a problem with their overhead lines). CHP2 & 3 were supply a were
00:40	CHP3 tripped off.
00:52	CHP2 tripped off and the plant blackout
01:58	Biogas holder inlet valve was arranged to close to safeguard the biogas system as per the emergency response procedures. This arrangement discontinued the pressure and level build up inside the biogas holder.
02:01	Q1 & Q2 closed, CLP pow er resumed.
02:01	Biogas holder level reached over 90%, booster set was unable to start due to lack of compress air supply.
02:01	Emergency flare was unable to start due to booster set was unable to start and therefore also no biogas supply to the flare
02:08	Anaerobic Digester (AD) Tank 1 Pressure relief Valve (PRV) triggered, biogas released from AD1 PRV intermittently. The biogas pressure was built up in the biogas system (before biogas holder) resulting in the biogas being released through one of the pressure relief valves as per designed scenario to safeguard the biogas tanks.

OSCAR Bioenergy Joint Venture EP/SP/61/10 – Organic Resources Recovery Centre Phase 1

04:22	Biogas booster set resumed and thus biogas supply resumed
04:24	CHP2 resumed to consume biogas
04:52	Flare system tested and restarted to rapidly reduce the pressure and biogas holder level
05:00	Plant resumed normal operation

Immediate Corrective Actions

The Contractor immediate arranged onsite personnel to prepare for emergency (Biogas release). The Contractor immediate arranged maintenance team to carry urgent maintenance. The Contractor arranged to conduct a thorough check to confirm the situation was under control with stable performance at around 5:00am.

Root Cause Analysis

- 1. CHP's were able to enter "Island Mode". CHP 2 for approximately 15 minutes and CHP 3 for approximately 4 minutes after Q1 and Q2 opened. Primary cause for CHPs tripped is that the power demand exceeded the load generation step of the CHPs therefore as explained in "Electrical Operation philosophy" CHPs shutdown.
- 2. There were 2 sources of compressed air supply to the booster set (plant air and a standby portable air compressor). The plant air supply was resumed after CLP power resumed. However, a valve (0014-AV-001) was closed resulted in no plant air supply to a Sub-loop which provided plant air supply to the booster set and flare. The valve's operation philosophy is to maintain the pressure in the Biogas Area Compressed Air Sub-loop if the main loop loses pressure. Therefore, the valve was operating properly at the time of the incident and should have been placed into manual to open once the pressure in the main system reaches approximately 7 bar to return normal plant air to the Biogas Compressed Air Sub-loop.
- 3. The booster set resumed normal operation once the plant air was manually isolated from booster set to allow the air to activate the pneumatic valves on the booster set. A check valve (non-return valve) was found malfunction and caused the standby portable air compressor continues running and finally overheated. For normal weekly testing, the plant air isolated from the booster set therefore the effectiveness of the check valve between the plant air and the booster was unable to check. The check valve was not included in the normal testing protocol. The testing protocol and a detailed review of the biogas safety system will be conducted to mitigate the risk of future biogas incidents.
- 4. The flare could not start primarily due to the booster set being inoperative. Without adequate pressure and flow provided by the booster set, no fuel (biogas) reached the flare to allow for consumption of biogas. Flare was in automatic mode during blackout and power was supplied through the UPS system. The testing protocol and a detailed review of the biogas safety system will be conducted to mitigate the risk of future biogas incidents.

Description of Corrective Actions (1)

1. To immediate arranged maintenance team to carry urgent maintenance

⁽¹⁾ The corrective actions have been closed on 30 September 2019

OSCAR Bioenergy Joint Venture

EP/SP/61/10 - Organic Resources Recovery Centre Phase 1

- 2. To replace the malfunction check valve
- 3. To train up staff for emergency response during the planned Loss of Main test
- 4. To conduct review of the biogas safety system to mitigate the risk of future biogas incidents.

Description of Preventive Actions (2)

- 1. To review the system and the testing protocol revised to allow testing of the check valve to the plant air system.
- 2. To add extra compressed air source (3rd Source) in case of emergency and prepare the emergency operation procedure of the diesel compressor
- 3. To provide refreshment training for staff about the updated response
- 4. To update the plant resume and checking procedures during blackout
- 5. To manage the plant loading while CHPs in island mode a detailed operation procedure will need to be developed. OSCAR has invited the CHP supplier (MWM) engineer to review the capability of the CHPs to understand how island mode conditions and expecting engineer visit in November 2019 afterword we can provide more a detailed road map for the island mode situation for the CHPs.

⁽²⁾ Items 1 to 4 have been closed on 4 October 2019. Items 5 is an on-going action.