

## Compliance Assessment Report CAR\_NRW0040137

**Permit being assessed:** AB0038301

For: Mill Street Screens CSO Abergaven, held by DWR CYMRU CYFYNGEDIG

At: Mill St Ind Est, Abergavenny, Monmouthshire, NP7 5HE.

**Type of assessment carried out:** Site Inspection, Reason: Incident Response (Incident number: 2205059).

On 15/07/2022, between 10:45 and 12:00.

Parts of permit assessed: Discharge point

**NRW Lead Officer:** Susan Lenthall.

**Report sent to:** DCWW, CARS@dwrcymru.com, on 18/07/2022.

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

Part of permitted activity assessed (criteria)	Assessment result	Permit condition
WQ-C1 - Emissions and monitoring - Emissions to water	C3 Minor	2.3 (b) (b) The discharge shall not be comminuted or macerated and shall have passed through screens as specified and shall not contain a significant quantity of solid matter with a particle size greater than any indicated. All screenings shall be removed from the discharge.

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

### 2. What action is required?

Criteria	Action needed	Complete by
WQ-C1	Take measures to ensure compliance, carry out clean up and submit spill data.	29/07/2022

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.

**You are non-compliant with your permit.**

**At this time, we are issuing you with a warning for the non-compliance recorded above. Warnings may influence future enforcement response for continued or further non-compliance.**

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

### **WARNING**

Natural Resources Wales received a report that raw sewage was discharging from the outfall of Mill Street CSO at around 10am on the 2nd July 2022 (WIRS 2205059). This was not reported immediately and so was not attended until 15th July.

At the time of my visit, no discharge was being made but a significant amount of sewage litter could be seen around the outlet and towards the edge of the river Usk. At the time, due to the low level of the river, most of the litter remained on the ground and caught up on branches.

However, this is a breach of permit condition 2.3 (b):

"The discharge shall not be comminuted or macerated and shall have passed through screens as specified and shall not contain a significant quantity of solid matter with a particle size greater than any indicated. All screenings shall be removed from the discharge".

"Table 3.3 - maximum size solid matter: no greater than 6mm in more than 1 dimension."

### **Actions:**

Please ensure:

- measures are taken to prevent litter being discharged,
- a full clean up is carried out (confirmed this would take place on Monday 18th July 2022),
- flow data is submitted covering the timescale from 25<sup>th</sup> June until 3<sup>rd</sup> July.

Please submit the data and confirmation of actions by Friday 29th July 2022.

The law allows us to recover the cost of investigating and dealing with incidents from the person(s) responsible. This is known as the 'Polluter Pays' principle. Natural Resources Wales can still recover costs when an incident does not result in pollution of water and when an offence has not been committed. Please be aware that an invoice will be sent.

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Susan Lenthall

Swyddog Amgylchedd/Environment Officer

Tîm yr Amgylchedd Sir Fynwy a Torfaen/Monmouthshire and Torfaen Environment Team

Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru / Natural Resources Wales

- Epost / Email: [Susan.Lenthall@cyfoethnaturiolcymru.gov.uk](mailto:Susan.Lenthall@cyfoethnaturiolcymru.gov.uk) / [Susan.Lenthall@naturalresourceswales.gov.uk](mailto:Susan.Lenthall@naturalresourceswales.gov.uk)

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 to 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
C1 Major	Potential to have a major, serious, persistent and/or extensive impact or effect on the environment, people and/or property
C2 Significant	Potential to have a significant impact or effect on the environment, people and/or property
C3 Minor	Potential to have a minor or minimal impact or effect on the environment, people and/or property
C4 No environmental impact	Non-compliance at a regulated site that cannot foreseeably have any impact on the environment, people and/or property

### If your assessment result in Section 1 is suspended, what does this mean?

In line with our guidance, we may suspend non-compliance for up to six months to allow time for remedial action to be taken. These will be re-instated if the action is not completed.

**Full list of water quality action criteria (used in section 1 and 2):****WQ A: Management**

- WQ-A1 General management

**WQ B: Operations**

- WQ-B1 Permitted activities
- WQ-B2 The site
- WQ-B3 Operating techniques
- WQ-B4 Improvement programme
- WQ-B5 Pre-operational conditions

**WQ C: Emissions and monitoring**

- WQ-C1 Emissions to water
- WQ-C2 Emissions to land
- WQ-C3 Emissions of substances not controlled by emission limits
- WQ-C4 Installation of monitoring boreholes

**WQ D: Information**

- WQ-D1 Records
- WQ-D2 Reporting
- WQ-D3 Notifications

**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](mailto: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](mailto: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.