

Compliance Assessment Report CAR_NRW0040867

Permit being assessed: AW1003501

For: LLANGUNLLO STW PS, held by DWR CYMRU CYFYNGEDIG

At: LLANGUNLLO STW PS, UNKNOWN, UNKNOWN, UNKNOWN, UNKNOWN.

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

On 06/12/2022, between 11:47 and 12:20.

Parts of permit assessed: See Criteria Below

NRW Lead Officer: Robert Harding, accompanied by: Shaun Rees.

Report sent to: CARS Mailbox, CARS Mailbox, on 29/12/2022.

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

Part of permitted activity assessed (criteria)	Assessment result	Permit condition
WQ-A1 - Management - General management	Assessed (A)	
WQ-B1 - Operations - Permitted activities	Assessed (A)	
WQ-B2 - Operations - The site	Assessed (A)	
WQ-C1 - Emissions and monitoring - Emissions to water	Assessed (A)	

Result types are explained in more detail 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 was a pre-planned OSM site inspection carried out by Natural Resources Wales Officers Robert Harding and Shaun Rees. We were shown around the site by the following DCWW representatives

Lowri Davies- Operations Supervisor

James Jones – ICA Technician

Chris Edwards- Process Scientist

Owen Bowers– Process Scientist

The weather during the visit was overcast and cold, with frost in the preceding days. We were shown through the works from inlet through to the outfall.

General Observations

The works is a single filter bed works, operates under a descriptive permit. All flows into the site come from nearby Llangunllo Sewage Pumping Station (SPS). The works is hydrologically, and gravity powered and does not have any telemetry in place. The SPS has telemetry in place. The site is attended periodically for maintenance but is otherwise unmanned.

The access track down to the site is very steep and when exiting enters onto a blind corner, as such vehicle access to the works is not likely to be possible in very wet or icy conditions.

Inlet

The incoming flow to the site is pumped in from the nearby SPS. There is no screening in place at the inlet, as incoming flows are macerated at the SPS. Access to the inlet and primary settlement requires climbing up a fixed ladder to the top.



Primary Settlement

The primary settlement tank is directly at the inlet point and is a small square chamber with a scum retaining board on the outlet side. The board in place was effectively holding back surface scum and there were no signs of excessive carry over of solids into the next stage of treatment. The outfall channel was flowing clearly at the time of inspection.

There is a syphon in place at the outfall of primary settlement chamber. This is to allow water levels to build up to a suitable level before flows are sent through to the filter beds. This is due to the works being gravity powered and needing to make sure there is ample hydrological pressure for the filter bed arms to function correctly.



Overall, the settlement system appeared to be operating effectively.

Filter Bed

The works contains a single filter bed of stone media. The rotation arm was moving free and unhindered. There were no signs of blocked outlets and the rotating arm appeared to be distributing effectively. There were no signs of ponding or dry patches across the filter bed and no excessive vegetation growth.

The filter bed at the works appeared to be operating effectively and flows through to final settlement appeared clear.



Humus Tank

There is a single open rectangular Humus tank on site, with scum retaining boards at both the inlet point and outfall. The humus tank appeared to be effectively preventing any solids passing through to the outfall. There is a visual covering of duckweed on the humus tank, however this does not affect settlement.

There were some (small) visible build ups of sewage fungus, and a slight fungal blanket of the bottom of the outfall channel from the humus tank. This does not indicate any non-compliance from the works as it operates under a descriptive permit. Where there is a syphon in place, it can be expected at times that flows will slow down through the works, which can lead to fungus growth.

The effluent flowing through to the outfall appeared clear of any solids or discolouration. At the time of visit the final settlement appeared to be operating effectively.



Outfall

The outfall of the works at the time of inspection was flowing with only a minimal amount of liquid, which appeared clear of solids or fungal growth. The outfall into the river Lugg is at a newer build concrete outfall with metal foot holds for access. The outfall pipe has a non-return valve to prevent ingress to the works during high river events. The outfall was flowing clear at the time of inspection. There were no signs of sewage fungus or discolouration around the outfall or within the watercourse.



Sludge Tank

De-sludge for the site is manually completed by operators on attendance, into a single rectangular sludge holding tank. The liquid from within the tank is returned to the head of the works, and the sludge holding tank is tankered out when required.

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 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.