

## Compliance Assessment Report CAR\_NRW0040847

**Permit being assessed:** BG0027002

For: CSO at Cribyn WwTW, Ceredigion, held by DWR CYMRU CYFYNGEDIG

At: Nr Glan Yr Afon House, Cribyn, Lampeter, SA48 7ND.

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

On 28/11/2022, between 10:00 and 10:40.

Parts of permit assessed: See criteria listed below

**NRW Lead Officer:** Bethan Lewis, accompanied by: Ffion Quan.

**Report sent to:** CARS mailbox, CARS mailbox, on 05/01/2023.

### 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-B3 - Operations - Operating techniques	Action only (X)	
WQ-C1 - Emissions and monitoring - Emissions to water	Action only (X)	

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

### 2. What action is required?

Criteria	Action needed	Complete by
WQ-B3	Please confirm the current overflow setting for the CSO at Cribyn WwTW and please provide a photograph demonstrating the aperture of the storm screen.	17/02/2023
WQ-C1	Please confirm the location of the EDM monitor used to record discharges from the CSO.	17/02/2023

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.

**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 site inspection at the Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) at Cribyn Wastewater Treatment Works (WwTW) (BG0027002) carried out by Natural Resources Wales (NRW) Officers Bethan Lewis and Ffion Quan. The NRW Officers were accompanied by Dŵr Cymru Welsh Water (DCWW) Operatives Daniel Williams (Senior Operator) and Sarah Mowlam (Operations Coordinator).

For observations concerning Cribyn WwTW (BG0027001), please refer to Compliance Assessment Report (CAR): CAR\_NRW0040846.

### **Summary**

The site inspection commenced at 10:00 hours on the 28 November 2022 and concluded at 10:40 hours. The weather at the time of the inspection was dry and sunny, however regular showers had occurred over the preceding 24 hours.

The NRW Officers were accompanied from the point of storm overflow to the point of storm discharge, with Daniel Williams explaining how this process operated.

### **Storm Discharge Process**

At the inlet to Cribyn WwTW, there is a storm overflow point, as shown in photograph 1 below, where flows to storm discharge are separated from flows to be treated by the WwTW. At the time of the inspection, the asset was spilling to storm. Given the regular showers over the preceding 24 hours, this was likely a permitted discharge. The permitted overflow setting for the CSO at Cribyn WwTW is 4.5 l/s. During the inspection, the overflow setting in use could not be confirmed, therefore we kindly ask DCWW to confirm the current overflow setting for the CSO at Cribyn WwTW by no later than the 17 February 2023.



*Photograph 1: Storm overflow point to the left of the primary settlement tank (PST)*

Following the point of overflow, flows discharging to storm are passed through a storm screen as shown in photograph 2 below. Screenings from the storm screen are automatically pumped to the primary settlement tank (PST). A telemetry alarm system has been installed to provide DCWW with immediate notification of a failure of this screen cleaning mechanism.

At the time of the inspection, the NRW Officers were unable to view the aperture of the storm screen due to the casing which surrounded it. As the permit requires the storm screen to have an aperture of 6mm x 6mm, we kindly ask DCWW to provide a photograph demonstrating the aperture of the storm screen by no later than the 17 February 2023.



*Photograph 2: Storm screen*

Following screening, flows discharging to storm are transferred through a chamber, as shown in photograph 3 below, which may be used as a storm discharge sampling point. In addition to providing an accessible monitoring point for effluent sampling, the permit also requires Event Duration Monitoring (EDM) to be located at the point of overflow. At the time of the inspection, it was not entirely clear where this EDM monitor was located. We therefore kindly ask DCWW to confirm the location of the EDM monitor used to record discharges from the CSO by no later than the 17 February 2023.



*Photograph 3: Storm discharge sampling point*



There are no storm tanks located at Cribyn WwTW therefore all flows discharging to storm enter the Afon Grannell via an outfall pipe within the left-hand bank of the watercourse as shown in photograph 4 below. This discharge point is located approximately 10m downstream of the final effluent outfall. As can be seen in photograph 4, the storm outfall was in operation at the time of the inspection. The discharge appeared only slightly more discoloured compared to the final effluent discharge, thought to be a result of high levels of infiltration across the sewer network.



*Photograph 4: Storm outfall*

### **Final Comments**

We wish to thank Daniel Williams and Sarah Mowlam for accompanying the NRW Officers at the time of the above inspection. No non-compliances were identified during the inspection, however if DCWW wish to discuss the contents of this CAR, we encourage them to contact the NRW Officer noted above.

It has been noted that the CSO spilled for a considerable amount of time during 2021 - for 1599 hours and 30 minutes in total across 219 separate releases. To ensure that the CSO is operating in accordance with the permit, NRW intend to request data for the CSO from DCWW via a WAF 001 data request form. A subsequent CAR will be issued following the review of this data.

*In this document 'Natural Resources Wales' means the Natural Resources Body for Wales established by Article 3 of the Natural Resources Body for Wales (Establishment) order 2012.*

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.