

Compliance Assessment Report CAR_NRW0042086

Permit being assessed: CG0069901

For: Bethesda Wastewater Treatment Works, held by DWR CYMRU CYFYNGEDIG
At: Off Bangor Road, Bethesda, Bangor, Gwynedd, LL57 3DW.

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

On 04/07/2023, between 13:30 and 14:00.

Parts of permit assessed: all permit

NRW Lead Officer: Cathrine Kiely, accompanied by: Gareth Siney.

Report sent to: CARS@dwrcymru.com, CARS mailbox, on 05/07/2023.

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

Part of permitted activity assessed (criteria)	Assessment result	Permit condition
WQ-B3 - Operations - Operating techniques	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

On the 4th July 2023 NRW Environment Officers Cathrine Kiely and Gareth Siney conducted an inspection of the STW accompanied by Victoria Collier, Gareth Williams, Steve Jones and Nicola from DCWW.

The weather at the time of the visit was dry and sunny although there had been heavy rain the previous day.

The purpose of the site inspection was due to a number of reports NRW had received relating to discolouration from the final effluent/storm outfall. There is a separate CAR form relating to one of the incidents reported CAR_NRW0042014.

The STW has an inlet & screen, aeration tank, sludge settlement tank and final effluent tank before final effluent is discharged via outfall into the Afon Ogwen. There is a storm facility at the works which discharges via the same outfall pipe as the final effluent. The storm facility was dry during the visit and not discharging.



photo 1: Inlet and screen



photo 2 : overflow weir to Storm with COPA sacs for extra screening.



Photo 3: aeration tank

One of the rotators for the aeration tank had recently been replaced. There were 2 additional aerator pumps also in use. One was due to be removed and the other would remain on a permanent basis as a backup.



Photo 4: sludge settlement lagoon

There were some signs of erosion on the sides of the sludge settlement tank however the improvement plan has been accounted for in this AMP.



Photo 5: Final effluent tank

As seen in photo 5, there was vegetation growing on the scraper at the final effluent tank. DCWW stated that they were aware of this and that plans were in place for maintenance however there were H&S considerations. **Please ensure the vegetation is removed off the scraper as soon as is practicably possible as it could impact on the efficiency of the scraper.**

Turbidity of the final effluent as stated on the meter was 5.55 at time of the visit.



photo 6: Final effluent and storm outfall.

The outfall structure was in good condition with clear final effluent being discharged. There was a disused pipe structure downstream from the outfall. Discussion took place as to whether this was causing an eddy effect which could cause any discolouration from consented storm overflows to settle in the pool directly downstream. NRW's view is that the STW is operating in accordance with its permit with the final effluent quality meeting consented values and that there is no requirement for improvement at present.

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.