

## Compliance Assessment Report CAR\_NRW0042126

**Permit being assessed:** AW1003801

For: LLANWRTHWL STW, held by DWR CYMRU CYFYNGEDIG

At: LLANWRTHWL STW, UNKNOWN, UNKNOWN, UNKNOWN, UNKNOWN.

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

On 20/06/2023, between 10:00 and 10:30.

Parts of permit assessed: See Criteria Below

**NRW Lead Officer:** Robert Harding.

**Report sent to:** CARS Mailbox, CARS Mailbox, on 12/07/2023.

### 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-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 site inspection carried out by Natural Resources Wales Officer Robert Harding. I was shown around the site by the following DCWW representatives  
Scott Beecham- Operational Supervisor  
Ashley Morris – Site Operator

The weather during the visit was dry following overnight showers. I was shown through the works from inlet through to the outfall.

### General Observations

The works is a small single filter bed works, which is entirely gravity powered and operates under a descriptive permit. The Works serves a population equivalent of approximately 90 people. The site is unmanned and there is no telemetry currently in place. There is no storm discharge permit listed for this STW, however there appears to be a potential for a storm discharge.

### Inlet

The incoming flow to the site is from a gravity sewer. There is no screening in place at the inlet before flows pass to primary settlement. At the time of the visit there was only a minimal flow entering the works, and no signs of solids or rags in or around the inlet. There is an open section of the inlet pipe which serves as a storm weir, which has no EDM monitoring in place and no additional storm screening. I recommended that it would be beneficial for EDM to be implemented and we discussed that lack of available power sources at the site is a potential barrier to this being possible. We also discussed if it would be possible to install a screen across the storm channels to prevent any rag passing through during a storm discharge. DCWW will investigate these options.



### Primary Settlement

The primary settlement tank at the works is an open rectangular shaped tank, with the outlet behind a set scum retaining board, for retaining solids.

Overall, the settlement system appeared to be operating effectively. There were no signs of significant solids passing through to secondary treatment.



#### Filter Bed

The outfall from the primary settlement tank leads to a syphon in the centre of the single filter bed. The syphon is in place to allow water levels to build up to a suitable level before flows are sent through to the filter bed. 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.

The works contains a single filter bed of stone media. On arrival at the works the filter arm was not rotating, as the syphon had not yet sent flow into the filter bed system. Once levels reached the set amount, flows were sent through to the filter bed. 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 the outfall channel appeared to be running clear.



#### Final Settlement

There is a small square final settlement tank at the works, which is located down a set of steps with by a guard rail. The design of the tank appears to be similar in theory to a septic tank, where the outlet pipe is lower than in input pipe, which helps to hold back and settle out solids. It is not possible to see the outfall channel from this tank to assess if it is operating effectively. There was evidence that the tank was effectively holding back solids.



#### 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 chamber is covered and in good working order and was opened by site operatives.

We checked the outfall into the watercourse, which can be accessed by walking outside the site fencing, through the adjacent field. The outfall pipe has a storm valve in place to prevent ingress into the works during flooding events. The watercourse was running clear and showed no signs of negative environmental impact around the outfall.



#### General Comments

The works is a very small and slightly secluded works, servicing a small population. The system is completely gravity/water powered and appears to be suitable to the size of the incoming flows. There are many trees around the works, which could potentially cause issues with leaf litter on the site, however operators appear to have been keeping on top of this. There were no signs of concern regarding the operation of the site, however the addition of EDM on the Storm outflow would be advisable.

#### Attention Required

The storm discharge from this works needs to be covered with an appropriate permit under Environmental Permitting

(England and Wales) Regulations 2016. The storm discharge is currently an unconsented discharge.

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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.