

Compliance Assessment Report CAR_NRW0041688

Permit being assessed: AN0420701

For: 2 COLLIERS COTTAGES, held by M J D MATTHEWS

At: ., CAERPHILLY ROAD, NELSON, CAERPHILLY, CF46 6PR.

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

On 17/04/2023, between 10:30 and 11:20.

Parts of permit assessed: All Permit

NRW Lead Officer: Gavin Summerhill.

Report sent to: Darren Matthews, Property Owners Son, on 14/08/2023.

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

Part of permitted activity assessed (criteria)	Assessment result	Permit condition
WQ-C2 - Emissions and monitoring - Emissions to land	C3 Minor	1.1.1 The operator shall manage and operate the activities: (a) in accordance with a written management system that identifies and minimises risks of pollution, including those arising from operations, maintenance, accidents, incidents, non-conformances and those drawn to the attention of the operator as a result of complaints;
WQ-C2 - Emissions and monitoring - Emissions to land	C3 Minor	4.3.1 The Environment Agency shall be notified without delay following the detection of: (a) any malfunction, breakdown or failure of equipment or techniques, accident, or emission of a substance not controlled by an emission limit which has caused, is causing or may cause

Part of permitted activity assessed (criteria)	Assessment result	Permit condition
		significant pollution;

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

2. What action is required?

Criteria	Action needed	Complete by
WQ-C2	- Waste transfer notes and maintenance logs need to be submitted. - Full service of the Sewage Treatment Plant required.	14/10/2023
WQ-C2	Following the recent pump failure a full report needs to be submitted on the sewage treatment plants functionality to ensure it is working as designed.	14/10/2023

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.

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

Site Report

On Monday 17th May 2023 I visited 2 Colliers Cottages, Caerphilly Road, Nelson. CF46 6PR to carry out a permit inspection on their Sewage Treatment Plant. Permit Number AN0420701. I arrived on site at 10.30am. The weather conditions were dry and overcast. Site inspection commenced at 10.40am.

Observations

Visual inspection of the Sewage Treatment Plant carried out. See photo 1 below.

Photo 1 (Kee Sewage Treatment Plant)



The discharge point as stipulated by the permit is accurate at grid reference ST1218995396. See photo 2 below.

Photo 2 (Discharge point to ground)



At this point I had a discussion with the property owner regarding the operation and maintenance of the Sewage Treatment Plant. The property owner advised that there has been an issue with the pump for approximately 4 months resulting in intermittent operation of the Sewage Treatment Plant.

Kee Sewage Treatment Plant Internal. See photo 3 below.

Photo 3



The primary settlement appeared to be working as designed with the liquor and solids flowing through the treatment zone. The liquor and solids fed through the second biological treatment zone which was visually much clearer. The final settlement tank contained clean water with no odour.

The property owner advised that the Sewage Treatment Plant was desludged in December 2022. I asked the property owner to provide paperwork regarding maintenance schedules or emergency work that has been carried out on the Sewage Treatment Plant.

Breaches of permit condition:

- **1.1.1** The operator shall manage and operate the activities:
(a) in accordance with a written management system that identifies and minimises risks of pollution, including those arising from operations, maintenance, accidents, incidents, non-conformances and those drawn to the attention of the operator as a result of complaints;

Justification

The property owner advised that the Sewage Treatment Plant had not been serviced for at least 15 years. No regular maintenance schedule in place and no records were able to be provided therefore not minimising the potential risk of pollution.

- **4.3.1** The Environment Agency shall be notified without delay following the detection of:
(a) any malfunction, breakdown or failure of equipment or techniques, accident, or emission of a substance not controlled by an emission limit which has caused, is causing or may cause significant pollution;

Justification

The property owner advised that the pump on the Sewage Treatment Plant had been intermittently working for the past 4 months, which may have caused significant pollution. The property owner did not notify NRW.

Action required by date specified

- Waste transfer notes and maintenance logs need to be submitted.
- Full service of the Sewage Treatment Plant required.
- Following the recent pump failure a full report needs to be submitted on the sewage treatment plants functionality to ensure it is working as designed.

These actions are required by the 14th October 2023.

Contact details:

If you have any queries regarding this CAR form or to provide an update on any actions above, please contact me using the following details:

Gavin Summerhill (Environment Officer)

gavin.summerhill@cyfoethnaturiolcymru.gov.uk

If we do not receive the information requested within specified deadline and have not been informed as to why there is a delay then we may serve a Regulation 60 Notice requiring the information under Environmental Permitting (England and Wales) Regulations 2016.

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.