

## Compliance Assessment Report CAR\_NRW0039056

**Permit being assessed:** AW1000701

For: BUILTH WELLS STW, held by DWR CYMRU CYFYNGEDIG

At: BUILTH WELLS STW, BUILTH WELLS, POWYS, .

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

On 03/12/2021, between 10:48 and 11:25.

Parts of permit assessed: See Criteria Below

**NRW Lead Officer:** Robert Harding, accompanied by: Ffion Roberts.

**Report sent to:** CARS Mailbox, CARS Mailbox, on 10/12/2021.

### 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 Ffion Roberts We were shown around the site by the following DCWW representatives

Lowri Davies- Operations Supervisor  
James Jones – ICA Technician  
Chris Edwards- Catchment Management  
Owen Bowers– Process Technician

The weather during the visit was overcast with intermittent showers. We were shown through the works from inlet through to the outfall.

#### General Observations

The STW is a filter bed works with two filter beds. Operators are on site daily and there is telemetry in place for monitoring when unmanned. On site there is an additional activated sludge treatment system and storage tanks, which are used when Builth Wells holds The Royal Welsh Show. During the visit this equipment was not in use and storage tanks were empty.

#### Inlet

The flow into the site is via gravity sewer, there are combined sewers in the area and into the works. There is a CSO/ Storm discharge permitted at the site (WQD009903). The storm well and sort tanks are located underneath the pumping building on the works, this was not inspected during the visit. Flows into the works are then pumped up to the head of the works through a 6mm escalator screen. The screen was fully operation and appeared to be working effectively. There were no signs of substantial solids or rag around the head of the works. Monitoring equipment was in place at the inlet point.



#### Primary Settlement and storm weir.

The primary settlement tank on site is a round designed tank, with a rotating sludge scraper. The tank appeared in good working order and there were no signs of significant solids carrying over from the tank. Monitoring equipment is present on the primary tank. The sludge return tank for the works was located at the side of the primary settlement tank.



#### Filter Bed

The works contains two filter beds of stone media. The rotation arms for both was moving free and unhindered. The effluent distribution points on both filter beds were clear of any debris and effluent was being effectively spread onto the filter media. There was no signs of pooling or dry tracks within the filter media and no excessive vegetation growth. The filter beds appeared to be operating in an effective manner.



#### Humus Tank

The works has a single round humus tank with rotating scum scraper (Brush). There were no signs of solids passing over from the settlement tank. The rotating brush was clearly operational and keeping the outfall channels clear of any debris or vegetation build up. The water at the outfall of the tank was clear free flowing.



#### Outfall and Sampling point

The final effluent from the humus tank passes through a Magflow flow meter, which appeared to be operating as required and accessible for inspection. The sample point is clearly marked with appropriate signage including the sample point number. The effluent within the inspection point appeared clear of any solids or signs of polluting matter. We looked at the outfall into the river, however it was under water at the time of visit and the river was running high. There were no obvious signs of concern around the outfall.



#### General Comments

The works appears in very good working order, and there were no signs of concern overserved. Visually the works appears clean and well maintained. There was extra equipment on site, which was for a trial of new technology, this is not connected to the works so was not inspected.

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.