

Compliance Assessment Report CAR_NRW0042775

Permit being assessed: AN0246001

For: LLEWELLYNS GARAGE, held by KIRAPENANTHAN

At: LLEWELLYNS GARAGE, A469, GILFACH, BARGOED, CF81 8LA.

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

On 18/10/2023, between 14:00 and 15:47.

Parts of permit assessed: All parts

NRW Lead Officer: Megan Jones, accompanied by: Gavin Dodd.

Report sent to: Nathan Kirapenanthan, Land owner/ Landlord, on 18/12/2023.

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

Part of permitted activity assessed (criteria)	Assessment result	Permit condition
WQ-D1 - Information - Records	C4 No impact	2.2.1 The discharge shall be made at the point listed in table S3.2 of this permit (discharge points) (ST 15400 98200).
WQ-C2 - Emissions and monitoring - Emissions to land	C2 Significant	3.1.1 There shall be no point source emissions to water, air or land except from the sources and emission points listed in schedule 3 tables S3.1, S3.2 and S3.3. (No visible evidence or significant trace of oil and/or grease present).
WQ-C2 - Emissions and monitoring - Emissions to land	C2 Significant	3.2.3 Appropriate measures shall be taken to prevent the input of hazardous substances to groundwater by avoiding the entry of those substances into groundwater and by avoiding any significant increase in their concentration in groundwater.

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

2. What action is required?

Criteria	Action needed	Complete by
WQ-D1	The accurate NGR of the soakaway point needs to be updated on the permit. This can be done by following this link: Natural Resources Wales / Apply to vary (change) a permit for installations	05/02/2024
WQ-C2	- A full service and inspection of the interceptor, chambers and soakaway system needs to be conducted by a certified servicing contractor and a report needs to be submitted upon completion to NRW. - No car washing activity is to be discharged through this system. Provide a report of alternative means of discharge.	05/02/2024
WQ-C2	A full service and inspection of the interceptor, chambers and soakaway system needs to be conducted by a certified servicing contractor and a report needs to be submitted upon completion to NRW.	05/02/2024

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.

We are currently considering taking enforcement action against you for the non-compliance recorded above. We will contact you in due course.

4. Details of our assessment

Site report

I (Megan Jones; Environment Officer) and Gavin Dodd (Environment Officer) arrived at Bargoed Service Station (ESSO) on Wednesday 18th October 2023 at 14.00 and Tuesday 7th November 2023 at 11.00 to conduct an inspection regarding a discharge into land *via* a soakaway of trade effluent (Permit Number: AN0246001). Mr. Kumar was in attendance at both times when the site was inspected, with Mr. Iyampillai being present at the second inspection. The weather conditions on both days was cold and wet on the ground.

The site is permitted to discharge run-off from the service station forecourt after it has passed through a three-stage oil interceptor. Once treated, the effluent is then gravity fed into a soakaway system to then disperse onto land. The effluent should only contain surface water and no visible oil or grease.

We located and inspected the interceptor chambers (Fig. 1-4). All three chambers contained oil. In the primary chamber, the oil was heavily concentrated and in the secondary and tertiary chambers there was a gradual decrease. However, there was still a substantial amount of oil

in the tertiary chamber before it passes on into the soakaway.



Figure 1. Location of the three interceptor chambers.



Figure 2. Contents of the primary interceptor chamber.



Figure 3. Contents of the secondary interceptor chamber.



Figure 4. Contents of the tertiary interceptor chamber.

We then located the area where the interceptor enters the soakaway system, the NGR as stipulated on the permit (ST 15400 98200) was not reflective of the actual location of the

soakaway system on site (ST 15403 98249).

The first time we attended we were unable to open the manhole on the soakaway system. Whereas on the second visit, we were able to open both the interceptor outlet/soakaway inlet to inspect the effluent before discharging into the soakaway and the manhole covering the soakaway to inspect the effluent within the soakaway (Fig. 5). We inspected the interceptor outlet/soakaway inlet effluent and found it was being contaminated with blue detergent that was being run-off from the carwash (Fig. 6). Due to the amount of soap suds it was unclear whether the effluent was contaminated with oil at this point. However, when inspecting the effluent within the soakaway, it was evident that oil as well as detergent was present (Fig. 7). We took some of the water out of the soakaway and it was evidently contaminated with the blue detergent from the car wash (Fig. 8). The presence of detergent within the soakaway system is not permitted as these detergents can emulsify oil present within the soakaway system. Furthermore, these detergents in themselves pose a significant risk to the environment (Fig. 9). When requested, the material data sheets were not supplied.



Figure 5. Location of the oil interceptor outlet/ soakaway inlet in the foreground, with the manhole over the soakaway in the background.



Figure 6. Evidence of blue water contaminated with detergent and soap suds coming from the carwash entering the soakaway system inlet.



Figure 7. Contents of the soakaway system where oil and detergent can be observed.



Figure 8. Blue liquid present within the soakaway system.



Figure 9. The label on the detergent that is being used to wash the cars in the car wash.

When we attended the site the second time, Dwr Cymru attended with us to identify whether the soakaway was connected to the foul sewer and it was identified that it was not through CCTV investigations of the network (Fig. 10).



Figure 10. Evidence that the interceptor was connected to the soakaway system.

The first inspection concluded at 15.47. The second inspection concluded at 12.40.

Upon discussion with Mr. Kumar on the initial inspection, it was identified that there were no historical issues or pollution events associated with the interceptor/ soakaway system. It was determined by NRW's hazardous waste regulation team, that the service station is registered as a hazardous waste producer.

A historical Compliance Assessment Report was issued (20.10.2015) that stated that the drainage needed to improve to stop water from the carwash entering the interceptor/ soakaway system and this has not been completed as the issue is still occurring. The current discharge from the car wash into the soakaway system is not permitted by NRW and is discharging illegally.

Breaches of permit

2.2.1 The discharge shall be made at the point listed in table S3.2 of this permit (discharge points) (ST 15400 98200).

Justification: The NGR on the permit is not the NGR of the soakaway system on site. The NGR of the soakaway as stipulated on the permit is ST 15400 98200 however, the

actual NGR of the soakaway is ST 15403 98249.

3.1.1 There shall be no point source emissions to water, air or land except from the sources and emission points listed in schedule 3 tables S3.1, S3.2 and S3.3. (No visible evidence or significant trace of oil and/or grease present).

Justification: Visible oil and blue detergent was observed in the pipework before discharging to the soakaway and in the final chamber which consisted of concrete with permeation holes, which percolates to ground.

3.2.3 Appropriate measures shall be taken to prevent the input of hazardous substances to groundwater by avoiding the entry of those substances into groundwater and by avoiding any significant increase in their concentration in groundwater.

Justification: The interceptor is not working sufficiently otherwise oil would not be discharging into the soakaway. In addition, effluent containing detergents are entering the soakaway system without treatment. Detergents enable oil to pass through the interceptor without being captured by the interceptor.

Actions required by specified date

- The accurate NGR of the soakaway point needs to be updated on the permit. This can be done by following this link: [Natural Resources Wales / Apply to vary \(change\) a permit for installations](#)
- A full service and inspection of the interceptor, chambers and soakaway system needs to be conducted by a certified servicing contractor and a report needs to be submitted upon completion to NRW.
- No car washing activity is to be discharged through this system. Provide a report of alternative means of discharge.

These actions are required by Monday 5th February 2024.

Other advisory comments

- The carwash is currently illegally discharging, this needs to cease immediately.

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: Megan Jones, Environment Officer, megan.jones@cyfoethnaturiolcymru.gov.uk, 03000 65 4542.

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.

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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 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.