

Compliance Assessment Report CAR_NRW0043219

Permit being assessed: BC0006801

For: GARNSWLLT STW LONGELIN AMMANFORD, held by DWR CYMRU CYFYNGEDIG
At: GARNSWLLT SEWAGE TREATMENT WORKS, LONGELIN, AMMANFORD,
SWANSEA, .

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

On 11/01/2024, between 10:45 and 12:00.

Parts of permit assessed: Works Operation

NRW Lead Officer: Sarah Bennett, accompanied by: Catherine Tucker, Gareth Martin,
Hamish Osborn.

Report sent to: CARS@dwrcymru.com, CARS Mailbox, on 23/01/2024.

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

Part of permitted activity assessed (criteria)	Assessment result	Permit condition
WQ-B1 - Operations - Permitted activities	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 Compliance Assessment Report relates to the final effluent discharge permit. A separate CAR has been issued for the settled storm discharge permit inspection.

On the 11 January 2024 we carried out a site inspection of Garnswllt Waste Water Treatment Works with DCWW. The weather was dry with the last rain falling on the 7 January 2024.

The flows coming into the works were still relatively high at 279 l/s. The FPF setting is 360 l/s so no flows were being diverted to the storm storage tanks.

The inlet channel was free from any obstructions. The 6mm screens were clean and operating well with no visible carry over of debris.

The 2 primary tanks looked in good order with no significant solids carrying over towards the activated sludge lanes which all appeared to be operating well.

Supernatant (from the sludge thickener/centrifuge) is introduced between the primary tanks and the activated sludge lanes adding to the flows.

After sludge lanes, the flows pass through a serpentine before being distributed to the 4 final tanks.

Phosphorus is removed by way of ferric dosing. A telemetry alarm system is in place to notify of failure or breakdown of the iron dosing plant. Sludge blanket monitors are also in operation.

At the time of the inspection there was pin flock rising in the primary tanks. Whilst this was not visible in the final effluent, which was clear, it is undesirable for flock to carry over into the final effluent discharge.

My understanding is that the works is to be improved in this AMP, allowing more flow to be fully treated. Two of the primary tanks are to be refurbished and an additional larger primary tank is also being built. Ground works have already started in preparation for this work.

Advisory

During the refurbishment and construction of the primary tanks dewatering will be necessary. An abstraction licence has been issued for the dewatering and an associated discharge permit has been applied for. The proposed discharge point in the application appears to be the final effluent channel downstream of the sample point and flow monitor. I would advise you to review this arrangement to ensure that this discharge does not have any influence on the final effluent or flow monitoring.

Having looked at the Operator Self-Monitoring (OSM) sample data for 2022 and 2023 the measured quality of the final effluent is very good with no Look Up Table exceedances or failures occurring.

Advisory

During this inspection we let you know it has been brought to our attention that the Ammonia being recorded by your continuous final effluent monitoring at Garnswllt WwTW may have a diurnal pattern of increasing in the evening then decreasing in the morning. This is not being picked up in the OSM spot sampling which takes place during the day, predominantly between 0900 and 1200. I would advise you to investigate why there may be a diurnal pattern and also whether your spot sample results are representative of the discharge, taking in to account that there may be a significant variation in composition across a typical day.

The final effluent is discharge to the Loughor via the same outfall as any storm discharges. We did not inspect the outfall at the time of the visit.

Thank you.

End

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.