

Compliance Assessment Report CAR_NRW0043781

Permit being assessed: AG0004501

For: CILFYNYDD STW CILFYNYDD PONTYPRID, held by DWR CYMRU CYFYNGEDIG

At: CILFYNYDD STW, CILFYNYDD, PONTYPRIDD, RHONDDA CYNON TAFF, .

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

On 29/02/2024, between 11:25 and 13:30.

Parts of permit assessed: All

NRW Lead Officer: Ceri Malone, accompanied by: Natalie Wrangham, Hannah Jenkins, Emily Roe01.

Report sent to: CARS@dwrwymru, CARS Mailbox, on 15/03/2024.

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-B3 - Operations - Operating techniques	Assessed (A)	
WQ-B2 - Operations - The site	Action only (X)	

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

2. What action is required?

Criteria	Action needed	Complete by
WQ-B2	Fix the leak from the bypass door and ensure that no unfiltered effluent is able to enter the treatment process.	15/06/2024

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.

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

Site Report

Ceri Malone, Natalie Wrangham, Hannah Jenkins, Emily Roe and Callum Murray conducted a site

visit of Cilfynydd Wastewater Treatment Works (WWTW) on 29/02/2024 at 11:25AM. As part of the visit an assessment of compliance with permit AG0004501 was made. Weather was dry and overcast, 8°C with heavy rain over the previous week. Cilfynydd WWTW receives wastewater from the upper Taff catchment and is also able to receive effluent from Cynon WWTW. Two DCWW operatives provided access to the site and were present during the site inspection.

Effluent from the inlet to the works was an orange/brown colour, DCWW stated that this was due to ferric from Llwyn Onn WTW. There were three 6mm screens which allow for grit removal prior to further treatment at the works. All screens appeared to be in good condition and rag/debris was deposited into a skip for later removal.

Storm treatment at the site flows through the same inlet and is screened in the same manner as normal effluent. If the flow is too high or during maintenance, it can be channelled through an adjacent bypass channel. At this point there was a leak from the main channel into the bypass channel from a screen door (Image 1). Water appeared to be filtered through bars rather than the 6mm screens. DCWW stated that a penstock was in place to stop any of this unfiltered water entering the works. After the 6mm screens storm water is diverted from all other effluent. A separate CAR form is to be completed for the settled storm permit (AG0004601).



Image 1 – Bypass Channel Leak

Effluent then passed through a large tank where grit is continuously removed using a “nodding donkey”. Grit was skimmed off into a skip allowing effluent to pass to the next process. Secondary

treatment at the site was a biological treatment using filter beds (Image 2). Effluent was distributed across the beds using a chain driven system where half of a bed is fed on the forward pass and half on the return. All of the filter beds appeared to be functioning as designed. Final treatment consisted of four hummus tanks. All were operational and fed the outlet, UWWTD sampling was located at this location. The site displayed correct signage at all the sampling points and event duration monitoring was in place.



Image 2 – Secondary Biological Treatment

The MCERTS flow meters were within the 5-year certification period (last completed 05/09/2022 – Image 3) and positioned correctly throughout the site. DCWW stated that as well as the external certification an internal team checks MCERTS meters every 2.5 years. A flume was also in place to control flow with no vegetative growth visible.



Image 3 – MCERTS Certification

Actions

1. Fix the leak from the bypass door and ensure that no unfiltered effluent is able to enter the treatment process.

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: Ceri Malone, Environment Officer,
Ceri.Malone@naturalresourceswales.gov.uk

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.