

## Compliance Assessment Report CAR\_NRW0043904

**Licence being assessed:** WA/057/0025/0015.

For: Taffs Well Quarry, held by Breedon Trading Ltd.

At: Heol Goch, Gwaelod-y-Garth, Cardiff, Cardiff, CF15 9JH.

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

On 26/09/2023, between 13:00 and 14:00.

Parts of licence assessed: all

**NRW Lead Officer:** Natalie Wrangham, accompanied by Martyn Davies, Alex Grabham.

**Report sent to:** Graham Warrington, Quarry Manager, on 03/04/2024.

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

Part of licenced activity assessed (criteria)	Assessment result	Licence condition
WR-A1 - Abstraction specified by licence - Source of supply	Assessed (A)	
WR-A2 - Abstraction specified by licence - Points of abstraction	Assessed (A)	
WR-A3 - Abstraction specified by licence - Means of abstraction	Assessed (A)	
WR-A4 - Abstraction specified by licence - Purposes of abstraction	Assessed (A)	
WR-A6 - Abstraction specified by licence - Quantities	C3 Minor	6.2
WR-B1 - Abstraction measurement and records - Means of measurement	Assessed (A)	
WR-B2 - Abstraction measurement and records - Recording	C4 No impact	8.1

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

### 2. What action is required?

Criteria	Action needed	Complete by
WR-A6	Operator to determine cause of over abstraction for dust suppression and action to ensure the licence condition is adhered to in future. If it is considered higher quantities are necessary for site activities, the Operator should submit an application for a licence variation. Operator to report findings to NRW	30/04/2024
WR-B2	Meter readings need to be taken and recorded on a weekly basis to comply with licence condition. If the site want to continue to take monthly meter readings a request needs to be submitted to NRW for consideration	31/10/2023

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 or civil sanctions being imposed depending on the circumstances of the offence.

**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**

Site inspection of Taffs Well quarry carried out by Environment Officers Natalie Wrangham, Martyn Davies and Alex Grabham on 26/09/2023. Weather was mostly dry with some light showers.

Upon arrival we met with Graham Warrington, Taffs Well Quarry Manager for Breedon. We were escorted to the quarry sump. There was no abstraction ongoing during our visit, and subsequently no discharge from the site. The flow meter for the pump was not in use. Mr Warrington explained that it shuts off when not in use. Mr Warrington explained they will visually inspect the water in the sump prior to pumping. If the water quality looks poor, he advised they do not pump or discharge.

#### **Abstraction quantities**

Maximum licensed abstraction quantities:

For **dewatering**:

**255.5** cubic metres per hour

**6,090** cubic metres per day

**643,770** cubic metres per year

For **dust suppression**:

**20** cubic metres per day

**6,000** cubic metres per year

Abstraction returns submitted by operator displayed in table below. Dewatering quantities have been taken from the 'River' readings and dust suppression had been taken from the 'tank' readings, as confirmed by Mr Warrington in email dated 18/10/2023.

Month	Dewatering (m3)		Dust suppression (m3)	
	Monthly total	Average daily	Monthly total	Average daily
August 2022	5,195	225.8	1,484	64.5
September 2022	4,829	219.5	2,126	96.6
October 2022	13,069	622.3	2,617	124.6
November 2022	66,802	3,036.5	2,303	104.7

December 2022	38,570	1,753.2	1,321	60
January 2023	90,650	4,120.5	1,793	81.5
February 2023	25,719	1,285.9	2,064	103.2
March 2023	46,806	2,035	2,227	96.8
April 2023	52,784	2,639.2	868	43.4
May 2023	23,954	1041.5	921	40
June 2023	5,826	264.8	1,357	61.7
July 2023	30,389	1447.1	1,116	53
August 2023	39,314	1709.3	1,166	50.7
Current annual total for 2023	315,442		11,512	

Please note, averages have been taken assuming a 5 day working week for abstraction.

As can be seen from the figures, the site had exceeded the maximum daily abstraction quantity for dust suppression in the average daily total and have already exceed the maximum annual quantity for dewatering for the 2023 period.

### **Measurement of abstraction**

Mr Warrington has submitted a calibration certificate for the dewatering discharge meter. The calibration was carried out by rshydro, who found that the meter has an error margin of 4.31%. Mr Warrington explained on site that the meter for the storage tank required maintenance, and this was scheduled to be carried out within the next few weeks.

### **Records**

The records submitted to NRW by Mr Warrington show the total readings for the abstractions for the month. Condition 8.1 states that the recordings of the meters should be taken at the same time **each week**, unless approved in writing by NRW. If the site would prefer to continue to submit monthly meter readings a request should be made to NRW for consideration.

### **Actions**

- Meter readings need to be taken and recorded on a weekly basis to comply with licence condition. If the site want to continue to take monthly meter readings a request needs to be submitted to NRW for consideration. **By 31/10/2023**
- Operator to determine cause of over abstraction for dust suppression and action to ensure the licence condition is adhered to in future. If it is considered higher quantities are necessary for site activities, the Operator should submit an application for a licence variation. Operator to report findings to NRW by **31/10/2023**.

### **Review**

Review of report shows that action to determine the cause of over abstraction and report findings to NRW has not been completed. Please acknowledge actions and submit the

report / review by **30 April 2024**.

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 licence is issued to you under the Water Resources Act 1991 as amended by the Water Act 2003. You have a responsibility to comply with the conditions of your licence 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.

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 resource action criteria** (used in section 1 and 2):**WR A: Abstraction specified by Licence**

- WR-A1 Source of supply
- WR-A2 Points of abstraction
- WR-A3 Means of abstraction
- WR-A4 Purposes of abstraction
- WR-A5 Period of abstraction
- WR-A6 Quantities
- WR-A7 Land
- WR-A8 Other specified on licence

**WR B: Abstraction measurement and records**

- WR-B1 Means of measurement
- WR-B2 Recording
- WR-B3 Reporting

**WR C: Surface / Groundwater level and protected flow**

- WR-C1 Minimum hands-off flow/level requirements
- WR-C2 Flow/level measurement devices
- WR-C3 Recording
- WR-C4 Reporting

**WR D: Environmental monitoring and information**

- WR-D1 Recording
- WR-D2 Reporting
- WR-D3 Notifications

**WR E: Fish and eel passage**

- WR-E1 Infrastructure specified by licence
- WR-E2 Maintenance and records

**WR F: Discharge**

- WR-F1 Point of discharge
- WR-F2 Infrastructure
- WR-F3 Measurement
- WR-F4 Recording
- WR-F5 Reporting

**WR G: Impoundment specified by licence**

- WR-G1 Inland water to be impounded
- WR-G2 Manner and extent of impoundment
- WR-G3 Point(s) of impoundment
- WR-G4 Construction and removal requirements
- WR-G5 Other specified on licence

**WR H: Borehole infrastructure**

- WR-H1 Infrastructure and accessibility
- WR-H2 Maintenance and calibration

**Enforcement response**

Any licence condition non-compliance is an offence and we may take legal action against you. Action we take can include prosecution or civil sanctions. 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 (Mon to Fri 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.