

Compliance Assessment Report CAR_NRW0043881

Permit being assessed: AG0011801

For: Bonvilston West Wastewater Treatment Works, held by DWR CYMRU CYFYNGEDIG

At: Redway Road, Bonvilston, Vale of Glamorgan, CF5 6TQ.

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

On 13/03/2024, between 13:00 and 13:45.

Parts of permit assessed: Relevant

NRW Lead Officer: Harry Warburton, accompanied by: Hannah Jenkins, Alexander Grainger.

Report sent to: CARS Mailbox, CARS Mailbox, on 17/04/2024.

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

Part of permitted activity assessed (criteria)	Assessment result	Permit condition
WQ-B2 - Water Quality - Operations - The site	Action only (X)	
WQ-B2 - Water Quality - Operations - The site	Action only (X)	
WQ-B4 - Water Quality - Operations - Improvement programme	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	Provide evidence for work that has been done recently to improve the infiltration issue into the works and what investigations are planned.	03/06/2024
WQ-B2	Supply the maintenance schedule for the reed bed and what has been done for it.	03/06/2024
WQ-B4	Please provide information on what improvements are proposed for the works under AMP8	03/06/2024

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

Compliance inspection undertaken by officers Harry Warburton, Hannah Jenkins and Alexander Grainger at Bonvilston East STW on 13/03/2024 to assess permit AG0011801. The weather at the time was dry.

The site is scheduled for improvement works under AMP8. The site also suffers heavily from surface water infiltration, although it should be a foul only line. Due to the infiltration many of the sites process units are flooded.

Inlet and primary treatment



The inlet is an unscreened gravity fed inlet which leads to the primary tank. This was heavily flooded where the weirs were submerged and some of the effluent is topping over the primary tank and through a bypass overflow grate. Due to the amount of water in the primary tank it is likely providing minimal levels of treatment.

Secondary treatment



Following the primary tank the effluent goes to a percolating filter bed. The filter bed media

was flooded with significant pooling and moss growth on the media. The effluent then goes to another settlement tank, this tank did not appear to be fully flooded like the first as the weirs were visible with effluent flowing over them as intended.

Tertiary treatment and sampling point



The final treatment is a reed bed before the final effluent. The reeds in the bed are all a straw colour and many of them are collapsed, along with this the reed bed itself is flooded.

The sampling point is located just after the reed bed. The outfall was not inspected due to being on private land requiring landowner permission.

Actions:

- Provide evidence for work that has been done recently to improve the infiltration issue into the works and what investigations are planned.
- Supply the maintenance schedule for the reed bed and what has been done for it.
- Please provide information on what improvements are proposed for the works under AMP8.

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.