

Compliance Assessment Report CAR_NRW0044102

Permit being assessed: BG0037101

For: MEIDRIM STW, held by DWR CYMRU CYFYNGEDIG

At: MEIDRIM STW, UNKNOWN, UNKNOWN, UNKNOWN, UNKNOWN.

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

On 19/03/2024, between 10:00 and 11:00.

Parts of permit assessed: Permit conditions

NRW Lead Officer: Joseph Callard.

Report sent to: CARS Mailbox, CARS Mailbox, on 24/04/2024.

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

Part of permitted activity assessed (criteria)	Assessment result	Permit condition
WQ-C1 - Water Quality - Emissions and monitoring - Emissions to water	C3 Minor	Location of discharge outlet

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

2. What action is required?

Criteria	Action needed	Complete by
WQ-C1	Prevent any discharge of flows exiting the works except by the permitted route	24/06/2024

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

Operation of the works

The works were inspected from the inlet through to the final effluent discharge point. On the day of the inspection the flows into the works were 4.68L/s, above the minimum pass forward flow of 3.9L/s.

Sewage is screened before being entering the primary settlement tank, from here it flows through a chamber to the filter bed. This chamber was observed overflowing during the visit

and it appears that the pipework between the PST and filter bed is undersized for the flows being sent through. The effluent was overflowing from here and running onto the filter bed. There did not appear to be a route for spills from this chamber to leave the site untreated as drainage of paved areas around the works returns surface water to the head of the works. Please be aware that a proportion of effluent flowing onto just one area of the filter bed may affect quality of treatment and the overflowing chamber may increase chances of a discharge of untreated sewage to the environment. All aspects of the treatment system should be appropriately sized to cope with the volume of incoming effluent.

Effluent flows from the filter bed into the hummus tank. During our visit we saw that one of the scum boards on the hummus tank was broken. This should be replaced or fixed to ensure floating solids cannot carry over into the final effluent.

From the hummus tank flows go to the FE monitoring point then through a section of pipe that contains a flow monitoring meter. To keep this pipe full and allow correct readings the end of this pipe is angled upwards and treated effluent falls from here into a chamber where it is combined with storm flows and flows into the Dewi Fawr. During the visit we saw that some effluent is splashing onto the car park and will flow into the surface water drain that drains to the small unnamed watercourse running adjacent to the site rather than the Afon Dewi Fawr which is the receiving watercourse. We discussed how installation of a raised curb around this pipework and drain could ensure all effluent flows into the drain and to the correct discharge point. We have recorded this issue as a category 3 breach. Please provide us with a plan that will rectify this issue within 2 months of the date on this CAR form.

We did not identify any further breaches during our visit.



Photo showing damaged scum board on hummus tank.



Photo showing chamber overflowing onto filter bed.



Photo showing pipework allowing small amounts of treated effluent to leave the site via a surface water drain.

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.