

## Compliance Assessment Report CAR\_NRW0044237

**Permit being assessed:** BP0237404

For: CSO No.10 at Norton Road, held by DWR CYMRU CYFYNGEDIG

At: In field, rear of No. 1 Castle Acre, Mumbles, Swansea, SA3 5TQ.

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

On 12/04/2024, between 11:32 and 11:55.

Parts of permit assessed: Permitted Activities, The Site, Operating techniques

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

**Report sent to:** CARS Mailbox, CARS Mailbox, on 10/05/2024.

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

Part of permitted activity assessed (criteria)	Assessment result	Permit condition
WQ-B1 - Water Quality - Operations - Permitted activities	Assessed (A)	
WQ-B2 - Water Quality - Operations - The site	Assessed (A)	
WQ-B3 - Water Quality - Operations - Operating techniques	Assessed (A)	
WQ-B3 - Water Quality - Operations - Operating techniques	Action only (X)	
WQ-B3 - Water Quality - Operations - Operating techniques	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-B3	Please ensure that maintenance on this CSO is programmed frequently enough to minimise the risk of sewage debris carrying over the screen due to blinding.	20/06/2024
WQ-B3	Please investigate whether the high tides could be backing up within the network causing false EDM telemetry alarms.	01/08/2024

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

On the 12th April 2024 we carried out an inspection of the Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) known as CSO no.10 at Norton Road.

The weather was dry at the time of the inspection. It had been raining on the days leading up to the inspection. The CSO was not operating at the time of the visit.

The CSO is relatively new having been constructed in the late 90's and is a weir structure. Due to the construction of the chamber which is positioned away from the foul sewer and surface water line, it was difficult to inspect the CSO chamber fully. There appeared to be some organic detritus visible within the chamber. You told us that this can be problematic within this CSO chamber and causes regular screen blinding on the surface water side, possibly due to the position of the CSO in close proximity to the discharge point on Swansea Bay.

The weir setting is 210 litres per second. The CSO is fitted with a 10mm bar screen which is manually cleaned. During the inspection the screen appeared to be blinded. The AGA maintenance operatives jetted the screens to clear the debris.

### Action:

**Please ensure that maintenance on this CSO is programmed frequently enough to minimise the risk of sewage debris carrying over the screen due to blinding.**

The Event Duration Monitor was installed in the CSO chamber as expected. It was positioned slightly away from the weir and you told us this was due to the construction of the CSO. The Event Duration Monitoring data submitted to NRW annually indicates that the EDM is fully operational and recording 98.44% of the time. In 2023 the EDM recorded 28 block counted spills for a total of 13.50 hours.

The EDM data showed there were 5 significant spills in the 2023 bathing season for 3.75 hours and the data was operating and recording 98.97% of the time.

You told us that you think that due to the positioning of the permitted discharge point on Swansea Bay, there is a possibility that the high tides back up within the network which could potentially cause false spill readings.

### Action:

**There was some discussion as to whether the EDM monitoring has been mixed up with the upstream CSO known as CSO No.11 Norton Road. Please can you check that this is not the case and that the data submitted in the EDM returns is reporting to the right discharge.**

The CSO discharges to Swansea Bay adjacent to the end of Norton Road. We inspected the outfall and it appeared to be clear of sewage debris. It had a flap cover to help prevent blockages which was intact but slightly wedged open by rocks and sand. There appeared to be a small amount of seaweed and rocks visible within the outfall.

My understanding is that DCWW is going through a process of classifying all its storm overflows in accordance with Guidance Note GN066 'How to classify storm overflow performance'. I would expect this asset to be classified as substandard due to the lack of 6mm 2D screens.

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](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.