

Compliance Assessment Report CAR_NRW0045132

Permit being assessed: BC0016601

For: Trebanos Wastewater Treatment Works, held by DWR CYMRU CYFYNGEDIG
At: Pheasant Road, Trebanos, Pontardawe, Swansea, SA8 4BR.

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

On 02/02/2024, between 10:00 and 12:00.

Parts of permit assessed: 2.1

NRW Lead Officer: Chris Palmer, accompanied by: Owen Caughlin, Rhys Griffiths.

Report sent to: Steve Churches, Catchment Manager, on 06/09/2024.

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-A1 - Water Quality - Management - General management	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-A1	Investigate impact of roots on medium and remove tree from filter. Confirm what the schedule of service is for the filter bed and when it was last cleansed or serviced	18/10/2024
WQ-B3	Update to NRW on current status and expected commission date of storm treatment system	18/10/2024

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

This inspection of Trebanos WwTW was undertaken as part of our compliance programme.

Screens

Screens were in working order at the time of inspection, with no issues noted.

Storm Treatment

We viewed the 2 storm treatment systems but were informed installation and testing had not be completed.

Action - Update to NRW on current status and expected commission date

Primary Tanks

The primary tanks were viewed, the half bridge was rotating and no issues were noted at the time of inspection.

Aeration Lanes

In the month prior to inspection, a number of blowers had failed and required replacing. All aeration cells were operational at the time of inspection and no issues were noted

Final/Clarifying Tanks

Effluent within the final tanks was clear and no issues noted at time of inspection

Nitrifier

A tree (species unknown) was noted to be growing out of the south side. I am concerned that this may have an effect on the efficiency of ammonia reduction due to the roots taking up space or binding the medium. This may also have an effect on flow capacity within the filter.

Action - Investigate impact of roots on medium and remove tree from filter. Confirm what the schedule of service is for the filter bed and when it was last cleansed or serviced.

Final Effluent Sampling chamber

It was noted that within this chamber there is a penstock which allows a portion of the flow to be directed to the nitrifier with the remaining portion being discharged as final effluent. This was queried on site (and via e-mail on the 5 Feb 24) and has since been confirmed by Steve Churches via e-mail dated 9 Feb 24 that this set up is to prevent upstream flooding of the works should flows increase.

Storm Tank

Storm tank was full and discharging at the time of inspection. It was noted the grid placed over the discharge weir had a small bit of rag attached indicating some carry of rag could occur. I questioned the onion sack filter that was to be trailed but was informed there was issue with this. We confirmed on site that FFT was being achieved and therefore the storm was a compliant discharge.

END

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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.