

## Compliance Assessment Report CAR\_NRW0045149

**Permit being assessed:** BW4100201

For: CSO and EO at Knelston Pumping Station, held by DWR CYMRU CYFYNGEDIG  
At: A4118, Knelston, Reynoldston, Swansea, SA3 1AR.

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

On 01/08/2024, between 12:00 and 12:20.

Parts of permit assessed: Permitted Activities, Parts of Operations, The site

**NRW Lead Officer:** Catherine Tucker, accompanied by: Hamish Osborn.

**Report sent to:** CARS@dwrwymru.com, CARS mailbox, on 11/09/2024.

### 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-B2 - Water Quality - Operations - The site	Assessed (A)	
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 locate and inspect the EDM monitor and screens in place at the SPS CSO and Emergency Overflow and report back to us with your findings	31/10/2024

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 Compliance Assessment Reports relates to a site inspection of Knelston Pumping Station on the 1st August 2024. The weather was dry during our visit and it had been dry on the days before.

The permit for Knelston SPS covers Storm discharge and discharge in an Emergency as defined in the permit conditions. We noted two pumps during the inspection. You informed us that the pumps at the SPS were duty assist and are alarmed as permitted.

Knelston SPS is permitted to discharge storm sewage once the flows passed forward are equal to or greater than 4.21 l/s. The EDM data for 2023 submitted recorded 34 significant spills and was shown to be recording 22.63% of the time. We were unable to locate the EDM monitor during this inspection.

**Action:**

**Please confirm the location of the EDM monitor and inspect the screens at the SPS and report back to us with your findings.**

**Advisory**

I would like to remind you that condition 3.2.4 requires you to take appropriate measures to ensure that the event recorder remains fully operational at all times. Any failures shall be remedied as soon as reasonably practicable. I understand that a comms failure or issue resulted in there being no data between 01/01/2023 - 09/02/2023 and 09/07/2023 - 31/12/2023. We would expect the data return to be at least 90% complete.

The permitted discharge point for the Storm discharge and Emergency Overflow is to the Oxwich Marsh Stream at SS 47141 89000. We did not inspect the discharge point on this occasion.

You were unable to show us the location of the screens at the permitted location, therefore, we were unable to inspect the screens. You informed us that they are alarmed and are on a maintenance schedule. You told us that they had been jetted within the last month.

Condition 2.3.1 requires that any emergency overflows, subject to the conditions of this permit, shall be operated using the techniques and in the manner described in the Pumping Station Key Protection Measures (PSKPM).

We observed an area for near the SPS for tanker access, if required. You also informed us that there is no standby generator at the SPS.

The permitted storage for Knelston SPS is a minimum of 2.5m<sup>3</sup>. You informed us that the SPS chamber is likely to have this volume. We did not measure the storage capacity during this inspection.

The SPS was not discharging at the time of the inspection.

**Summary of actions carried out following the previous Compliance Assessment Report CAR NRW0042934**

It has previously been identified that this pumping station can become hydraulically overloaded during the winter, especially when the water table is high. On the 12/12/2023 we carried out a compliance assessment after you self-reported that the pumping station was hydraulically overloaded and discharging storm sewage on dry days. In

CAR\_NRW0042934 we asked you to provide a plan of the steps you intended to take to work towards addressing this non-compliance.

You provided the plan we asked for which included the following points:

- Knelston (Frogmoor) SPS is intrinsically linked to Scurlage SPS.
- Your inspections confirmed that the sewer network upstream of Scurlage SPS is affected by gross infiltration during prolonged wet-weather periods which elevate the groundwater table.
- Your plan was to start tackling infiltration in the network above Scurlage SPS by lining work approximately 600m of the foul sewer and some lateral connections as well as internally sealing 10 manhole chambers.
- This work was due to commence in September 2024.
- After completing the work, you intend to monitor the pumping station through the winter period and utilise hydraulic modelling to assess the effectiveness of this intervention.
- If further work is required to eliminate infiltration following the completion of this planned works you intend to re-investigate the area.
- The success of the interventions carried out here will influence work needed to be done further up the catchment at Knelston (Frogmoor) SPS which can also be hydraulically overloaded.

My understanding is that the lining and sealing work has recently been completed and you are now moving into the monitoring phase.

We did not identify any non-compliances during the inspection.

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.