

Compliance Assessment Report CAR_NRW0045261

Permit being assessed: AN0249201

For: RHIWSAESON STW RHIWSAESON LLANTRI, held by DWR CYMRU CYFYNGEDIG
At: Bryn Creigiog, Rhiwsaeson, Pontyclun, Rhondda Cynon Taff, CF72 8NX.

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

On 20/09/2024, between 11:00 and 12:00.

Parts of permit assessed: Relevent

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

Report sent to: CARS mailbox, CARS mailbox, on 06/11/2024.

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)	
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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	Remove the branch with ragging that is in the flow to Coslech below the Mcerts monitor as it will effect the readings	Already completed
WQ-B2	Clear the storm screen near the inlet as there was a build up of rag	Already completed

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 20th of September 2024 NRW officers Harry Warburton and Hannah Jenkins attended Rhiwsaeson STW accompanied by the Dwr Cymru (DCWW) Catchment Manager, Compliance Manager, AGA Pollution Technician the Operational Supervisor AGA for the area and the Site Operator, to undertake a compliance inspection of permits

AN0249201 the treated effluent discharge and AG0019402 the settled storm discharge permit for Rhiwsaeson the later of which is assessed separately in CAR_NRW0045277. The weather on the day was dry.

Inlet

The inlet flows to Rhiwsaeson are split between Rhiwsaeson works and Coslech STW, the mechanism directs up to 70l/s to Coslech, 50l/s to Rhiwsaeson for treatment, and any additional goes through the storm screen and to the storm tanks (image of storm screen below). The channel of flow of effluent to Coslech had a branch dangling into the channel that was wrapped in rag, this branch and rag was below the MCERTS flow monitor which may effect the readings (image below). This was mentioned on site and confirmed to have been removed on the same day.

The flow to Rhiwsaeson works is screened before going to the primary tank.



Primary treatment

The effluent enters a primary treatment tank which appeared in good order. The effluent then enters another tank which consists of 8 sections, which also appeared in good order. we were informed that the primary sludge is directed to Csolech for pre-treatment prior to transportation to a sludge handling facility (Cardiff or Cog Moors works).

Secondary treatment

The effluent then enters into six different percolating filter beds. All were functional and didn't have any excessive vegetation growth. We were informed that a novel technique using hot water to control vegetation growth has been trialled and put in use at the site.

Following the filter beds the effluent enters a final settlement tank, this tank is very deep

with high concrete walls which would make maintenance difficult.

Tertiary treatment and sampling point

Finally the effluent is put through tertiary treatment pile cloth media filtration units. The flow then enters the final effluent sampling chamber to be discharged to the Afon Clun. The outfall was not accessible for inspection, however the river was observed on a downstream footbridge and there was no evidence of visual impact to the river.

Storm tanks

There are two storm tanks that receive the excess flow that is not sent to Coslech or treated through Rhiwsaeson works. This will be assessed separately in CAR_NRW0045277 against conditions relating to the storm discharge for Rhiwsaeson.

Actions

The actions set out in the table were discussed with the operators on the day and completed. The ragged branch was removed from under the level monitor on 20/09/24 following our visit. And the storm screen was cleared on 23/09/24 and actions taken confirmed in writing by the Operational Supervisor for the catchment.

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.