

Compliance Assessment Report CAR_NRW0045755

Permit being assessed: AA0003101

For: Llanbedr Wastewater Treatment Works, held by DWR CYMRU CYFYNGEDIG
At: Maes Ffynnon, Llanbedr, Crickhowell, Powys, NP8 1SQ.

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

On 13/11/2024, between 10:55 and 11:15.

Parts of permit assessed: See Criteria Below

NRW Lead Officer: Robert Harding.

Report sent to: CARS Mailbox, CARS Mailbox , on 03/12/2024.

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

Part of permitted activity assessed (criteria)	Assessment result	Permit condition
WQ-A1 - Water Quality - Management - General management	Assessed (A)	
WQ-B1 - Water Quality - Operations - Permitted activities	Assessed (A)	
WQ-B2 - Water Quality - Operations - The site	Assessed (A)	
WQ-C1 - Water Quality - Emissions and monitoring - Emissions to water	Assessed (A)	

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

2. What action is required?

No action required.

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 was a pre-planned site inspection conducted by Natural Resources Wales Officer Robert Harding. I was shown around the site by DCWW representatives.

The weather during the visit was dry and cool. I was shown through the works from inlet through to the outfall.

General Observations

The works is a gravity powered filtration works. The works recently received a permit variation effective 26/06/2024. At the time of this inspection there were no flows passing through the works, as the site had been tankered on 12/11/2024 as part of the site's routine maintenance programme. This OSM inspection was completed as a no flow inspection.

Inlet

The incoming flows into the works are through a gravity sewer and pass directly into the primary settlement system. There is no screening in place at the inlet of this works.

Primary Settlement

The incoming flows pass directly into an above ground, 2 chambered primary settlement tank rectangular covered primary settlement tank. The first chamber has a lower outlet point than the inlet, similar to a septic tank, which retains solids at the surface of the tank. The final chamber has retention screens in place to further hold back solids from the next stage of treatment. The settlement tank was still in the process of filling up and was below the discharge level, following from being tankered the previous day.



The outfall from the primary settlement tank leads to a syphon chamber, the purpose of which is to ensure there is sufficient hydrological pressure for the rotating filter bed arms.

Filter Bed

The works contains a single filter bed of stone media. On arrival at the works the filter arm was not rotating the syphon chamber had not discharged. There was a thin coverage of moss across the surface of the media, however it did not

appear to be at a level which would prevent ample distribution onto the filter media.

Overall, the filter bed at the works appeared to be in suitable working order. With no flows passing through at the time of inspection it was not possible to fully assess the treatment process. There is a rotation sensor in operation on the filter bed.



Humus Tank

There is single circular humus tank in operation, with retention boards to hold back solids within the centre of the tank. When the primary tanks at the site are tankered out, the contents of the humus tank are pumped up to the primary settlement tank to re-seed the works. At the time of inspection, the level within the tank was far below the level for any discharges to occur, therefore it was not possible to fully assess its operation.



Outfall and sampling point

The Final effluent sampling point is clearly marked with appropriate signage including the sample point number. There were no flows passing through the outfall at the time of inspection, and there were no signs of any signs of any recent sewage fungus growth within the chamber.

There is an MCERTS Magflow meter in operation at the works, to monitor flows. The display meter is located near the sampling point and was clearly operational at the time of inspection. There was appropriate signage to indicate the last calibration/verification date.

The physical outfall into the receiving watercourse was not inspected on this occasion, as there were no flows passing through the works.



General Comments

This is a smaller works, operating under OSM tier 3 sampling requirements. Overall, the works appeared in good working order and there have not been any recent sample exceedance for this site.

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.