

Compliance Assessment Report CAR_NRW0045779

Permit being assessed: BW4100301

For: New Crofty C Sewage PS Crofty Gower Crofty C SPS, held by DWR CYMRU CYFYNGEDIG

At: Crofty, North Gower, Swansea, SA4 3SP.

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

On 22/11/2024, between 11:05 and 11:30.

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

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

Report sent to: CARS@dwrwymru.com, CARS Mailbox, on 05/12/2024.

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)	

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 report relates to a site inspection of New Crofty C Pumping Station in Crofty, on 22nd November. The weather was dry and had been in the week leading up to the inspection. This permit allows for discharge of both storm sewage and emergency, both discharge from the same outfall, into the Morlais River.

The Pumping Station Key Performance Measures (PSKPM) confirms the wet well meets the required minimum storm storage capacity of 92m³, which is 2x3DWF, the PSKPM states that this storage can also be used in the event of an emergency. You confirmed that the well was serviced by duty, assist and standby pumps. Duty only was in operation during inspection, pumping 35l/s.

Both storm and emergency discharges pass through a 6x6mm wave screen which appeared to be clear of debris and in good working order. We could see a bypass weir in the CSO chamber. Whilst a bypass weir is expected in a good CSO design, flows should not bypass the screen unless they exceed the 1 in 5-year storm return period. In October 2023 flows bypassed the screen and sewage debris entered the Morlais. It was determined that there had not been a 1 in 5 year event and the screen had been bypassed due to exceptionally high surface water inflows entering the pumping station from the network. In response to a Compliance Assessment Report (CAR NRW0042922) you informed us that you would trial a trigger that would alert you to the end of a spill so that the point of discharge can be cleaned manually. Additionally you would begin an inflow investigation to find and mitigate sources of additional load

We could see the Event Duration Monitor located in the CSO chamber. We discussed the quality of the 2023 EDM returns as the monitor appears to only be recording 82.05% of the time. We would expect the percentage to be no less than 90%. You said that you were aware of this and were investigating how to boost the signal at this location. There were 8 counted spills in 2023, not accounting for the nearly 20% of missing data. Once the number of spills exceeds 14 an investigation into the exceedance must be carried out, as described in the permit

Thank you for your time.

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 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.