

Compliance Assessment Report CAR_NRW0045805

Permit being assessed: BP0231501
 For: UNITED WORLD COLL OF ATLANTIC LLA, held by UNITED WORLD COLL OF THE ATLANTIC
 At: UNITED WORLD COLL OF ATLANTIC, LLANTWIT MAJOR ,, LLANTWIT MAJOR ,, ,
 LLANTWIT MAJOR ,, ,.

Type of assessment carried out: Site Inspection, Reason: Incident Response (Incident number: 2415270).
 On 29/10/2024, between 11:45 and 12:15.
 Parts of permit assessed: Condition 2

NRW Lead Officer: Charlotte Rhodes.
Report sent to: Sarah Savage, Helpdesk Team Leader, Building Maintenance Estates, on 09/12/2024.

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	C3 Minor	Condition 2: The discharge shall be made in the manner and at the place specified as follows:- Discharging via: A short sea outfall, discharging below the low water mark of neap tides. Discharging to: Bristol Channel. At OS Grid Ref: SS 936 678. As shown market: Point "D" on attached plan BP0231501.
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?

Criteria	Action needed	Complete by
WQ-B1	Repair the pipe burst as soon as possible to redirect flow to the permitted discharge point.	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

Introduction

On 29th October 2024, Officer C RHODES visited Atlantic College UWC, in relation to a self-reported breach of permit **BP0231501** on 24th October 2024. The team identified an exposed hole in the discharge pipe at the base of the sea wall, within which a blockage was resulting in effluent flowing onto the beach and not out to its permitted discharge point.

We wish to thank the Building Maintenance Manager and their team for meeting Officer RHODES at and guiding around site.

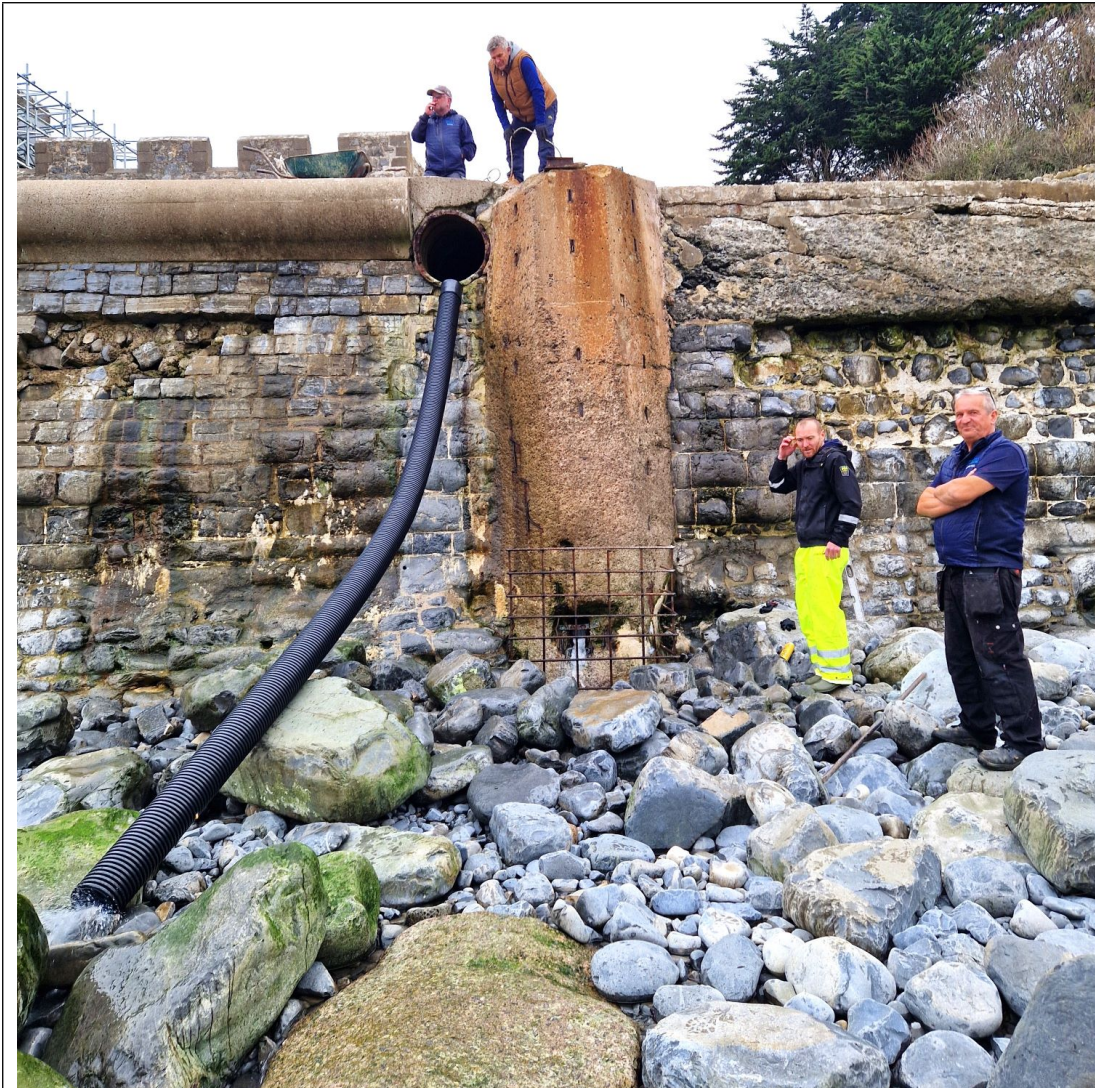
Discharge point

At the time of visit, the weather was dry with heavy rain beforehand. The tide had just obscured the discharge point but staff in attendance confirmed they had checked it at low tide and witnessed some discharge still reaching this point, though most was being diverted out onto the beach as shown in the photo below.



Due to the proximity and volume of a surface water outlet adjacent, staff had been unable to safely access the pipe to install a fix but confirmed the plan of action was to install a temporary fix within a few days, clearing the blockage and patching the hole in the sea wall. A longer term plan was then to install a new pipe within the existing to help future-proof against further tidal damage and encase it with concrete.

Work on welding a frame to surround the bottom of the pipe area and support the infilling concrete began the week of the visit. The following week, the team then had to find the best way to restrict the groundwater overflow pipe to manage the surface water outlet, which was then low flowing enough to divert the remainder into an overflow pipe to provide a dry working area as below.



During the commencement of works, it was then realised that the inspection hatch at the base of the pipe had also come away. This was replaced, the hole in the downpipe patched, the welded frame fixed to the wall and enclosed in shuttering, and concrete infilled on Friday 8th November – photos of the process shown below which were emailed from Atlantic College staff on 11th November. The repair had reportedly held well during wet weather of that weekend.







Treatment plant

Officer RHODES inspected the final tank of the treatment plant at the end of the visit, following thick sludge and lice observed during last visit – reference CAR_NRW0042024. On this occasion, the plant appeared to be functioning well and there was no sludge blanket on the surface as before, however there was some sludge and fungus visible around the edges.

Small particles of solids were visible in the main flow consistent with strands of toilet paper, but a sample was not taken on the day as monitoring data suggests there have been no breaches of suspended solids limits recently – see CAR_NRW0045194. Buildings Maintenance staff agreed to get the sludge cleared.

Conclusions and further actions

The above incident does constitute a breach of Condition 2 which states “Discharging via: A short sea outfall, discharging below the low water mark of neap tides”. Subsequently, this amounts to a **breach of the below legislation:**

Offence: Contravention of Regulation 38 (2) of the Environmental Permitting (England and Wales) Regulations 2010, by failing to comply with or contravening a permit condition

Date: On 24th October 2024

However, we acknowledge and appreciate that this was self-reported and a repair completed as early as practicable and therefore consider **Advice & Guidance** a sufficient enforcement response. This does not withhold us from adjusting our response as necessary should new information come to light, including, but not restricted to, information that:

- the environmental impacts of this offence are greater than we presently understand them;
- the offences are continuing or have been repeated.

There are no further actions at this stage.

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.