

Compliance Assessment Report CAR_NRW0045833

Permit being assessed: BO5109601

For: New Penclawdd Sewage PS Penclawdd, held by DWR CYMRU CYFYNGEDIG

At: Penclawdd, North Gower, Swansea, SA4 3YQ.

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

On 22/11/2024, between 10:10 and 10:40.

Parts of permit assessed: Permitted Activities, Operating Techniques, The Site & Emissions and Monitoring

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

Report sent to: CARS@dwrcymru.com, CARS Mailbox, on 16/12/2024.

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)	
WQ-B3 - Water Quality - Operations - Operating techniques	Action only (X)	
WQ-C1 - Water Quality - Emissions and monitoring - Emissions to water	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 inspect the screens at the SPS and report back to us with your findings.	28/02/2025
WQ-C1	Please confirm the location of the EDM monitor and report back to us with your findings.	28/02/2025

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 Report relates to a site inspection of Penclawdd Sewage Pumping Station on the 22nd November 2024. The weather was dry during our visit and it had been dry on the days preceding the inspection.

The consolidated permit for Penclawdd SPS allows the discharge of Storm Sewage and Sewage in an Emergency as defined in the permit conditions.

The SPS consists of a covered well which was not accessible during the inspection. You informed us that the 3 pumps in operation at the SPS were duty assist and standby as specified in the Pumping Station Key Protection Measures (PSKPM) submitted to us in 2019.

You told us that the pumps and non-return valves (NRV) had recently been reconditioned and had maintenance works carried out within the past 12 months as a result of the pump 2 NRV replacement which you notified us of via OPNOT in April 2024.

According to the annual Event Duration Monitor (EDM) data submitted to us for 2023, there were 66 significant spills recorded and it was shown to be operational 90.17% of the time. The location of the overflow chamber is in a carpark some distance away from the SPS. We were unable to locate the EDM monitor during the inspection due to a parked vehicle preventing access to the CSO chamber.

Action:

Please confirm the location of the EDM monitor and report back to us with your findings.

You have previously notified us via a Spill Frequency Trigger Exceedance Notification (TEN) that Penclawdd SPS exceeded its limit of 26 block counted spills during 2023 and 2024. You've subsequently submitted an initial investigation report to us which included an investigation proposal into the trigger exceedance. We discussed this during the inspection and you told us that the investigation works are ongoing. The MCERTS flow meter was measuring the PFF at 92 l/s when the pumps first started during the inspection. The PFF then dropped to 70 l/s.

The permitted screen aperture for the CSO discharge is 6mm X 6mm. We were unable to inspect the screens at the permitted location due to the parked vehicle preventing access to the CSO chamber.

Action:

Please inspect the screens at the SPS and report back to us with your findings.

Compliance assessments against Condition 2.3.2

- b. Off-line storm storage must be fully utilised before a discharge occurs. It shall only fill when the flow passed forward is equal to or greater than the overflow setting indicated

due to rainfall and/or snow melt and shall be emptied and its contents returned to the continuation flow as soon as reasonably practicable. The minimum off-line storm storage required is specified in table S3.3.

Table S3.3 specifies that the off-line storage capacity is a minimum of 300m³. We discussed this with you during the inspection and you informed us that the storm tanks are marked on your DCWW plans as being located in the land adjacent to the SPS. We were unable to locate or inspect the storage provisions for the SPS during the inspection. However, our understanding is that the storage tank condition and capacity is being looked at as part of the Trigger Exceedance investigation and that this information will be included in your report which we expect to receive shortly.

The permitted discharge point for the Storm sewage and Emergency Overflow is to the Burry Estuary at SS 54502 95885. We inspected the outfall point and apron which appeared dry and free from sewage debris. We understand that in the event of an Emergency discharge, the flows would pass through the CSO overflow chamber and therefore would be screened before discharging to the environment.

During this inspection, we did not identify any non-compliances.

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 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.