

Compliance Assessment Report CAR_NRW0045603

Permit being assessed: BE0075602

For: Cuckoo Mill SPS, held by DWR CYMRU CYFYNGEDIG

At: Brynterwood, Llangefelach, Swansea, SA5 7LN.

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

On 15/10/2024, between 11:30 and 12:15.

Parts of permit assessed: Parts of Operations, The Site, Permitted Activities, Emissions & Monitoring

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

Report sent to: CARS@dwrwymru.com, CARS Mailbox, on 13/01/2025.

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-C1 - Water Quality - Emissions and monitoring - Emissions to water	Action only (X)	
WQ-B3 - Water Quality - Operations - Operating techniques	C3 Minor	2.3 Operating techniques 2.3.1 For the discharge specified in table S3.3: (b) The discharge shall not be comminated or macerated and shall have passed through screens as specified and shall not contain a significant quantity of solid matter with a particle size greater than any indicated. All screenings shall be removed from the discharge.

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

2. What action is required?

Criteria	Action needed	Complete by
WQ-C1	Please locate the EDM monitor and report back to us with	31/03/2025

Criteria	Action needed	Complete by
	your findings	
WQ-B3	Please ensure the screen in place at the SPS is as permitted. Please report your findings to us.	31/03/2025

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 Reports relates to a site inspection of Cuckoo Mill Pumping Station on the 15th October 2024. It was drizzling on and off at the time of the visit and there had been rainfall in the days preceding.

This CAR form relates to the Cuckoo Mill SPS Storm discharge permit BE0075602 as defined in the permit conditions. There is also a permit in place for a discharge in an Emergency from the SPS. I will complete a separate CAR form for that discharge/ permit number.

We inspected the wet well which had three rising mains and storage tank. The level appeared to be low during the inspection, there was a sample point located within the wet well. A sample could also be taken from the open chamber downstream, if required.

You told us that during a storm event, flows would rise to the top of the wet well chamber and overflow through the pipe into the channel where a CopaSac was fitted on the end of the pipe to provide additional screening to the discharge prior to the metal screen.

We noted three pumps during the inspection. You informed us that the pumps at the SPS were duty assist and standby and are alarmed as required by the permit. The SOAF Assessment and Review found an issue with the PFF not being met and had identified pump performance as the cause. You told us during the inspection that the pumps had been replaced earlier in the year (March & April 2024) and that PFF was now being met. Cuckoo Mill SPS is permitted to discharge storm sewage once the flows passed forward are equal to or greater than 22 l/s.

The EDM data for 2023 submitted recorded 120 significant spills and was shown to be recording 99.85% of the time. We were unable to locate the EDM monitor during this inspection. The NGR within the permit for the point of overflow is SS 63943 99269, this could be confirmed and adjusted if required in any future permit variations.

Action:

Please locate the EDM monitor and report back to us with your findings.

The permitted discharge point for the Storm discharge is to the River Llan at SS 63943 99269. We did not inspect the discharge point on this occasion as it was inaccessible due to vegetation and wire fencing.

You showed us the location of the screen at the permitted location. The permitted screen aperture size is 6x6mm. During the inspection we identified that the screen fitted is a static 10X10mm.

Compliance with permit condition

2.3 Operating techniques

2.3.1 For the discharge specified in table S3.3:

- (b) The discharge shall not be comminuted or macerated and shall have passed through screens as specified and shall not contain a significant quantity of solid matter with a particle size greater than any indicated. All screenings shall be removed from the discharge.

We have assessed compliance with this permit condition and as the screen in place is not 6X6mm, we have assessed that you are not compliant with the permit condition.

This non-compliance is in contravention of Regulation 38 (2) of the Environmental Permitting (England and Wales) Regulations 2016 which states that it is an offence for a person to fail to comply with or to contravene an environmental permit condition.

Action:

Please ensure the screen in place at the SPS is as permitted. Please report your findings to us.

Please take the advice given in this report as formal Advice and Guidance intended to bring the discharge back into compliance with the Permit.

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.