

Compliance Assessment Report CAR_NRW0046472

Permit being assessed: WQD009606

For: MARCROSS SEWAGE TREATMENT WORKS, held by Vale of Glamorgan Council

At: MARCROSS, LLANTWIT MAJOR, ., BRIDGEND, CF61 1ZG.

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

On 27/02/2025, between 11:00 and 12:00.

Parts of permit assessed: Relevant

NRW Lead Officer: Harry Warburton, accompanied by: Alexander Grainger.

Report sent to: Mark Harvey, Compliance Manager, on 27/02/2025.

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

Part of permitted activity assessed (criteria)	Assessment result	Permit condition
WQ-B2 - Water Quality - Operations - The site	Action only (X)	
WQ-B2 - Water Quality - Operations - The site	Action only (X)	
WQ-B2 - Water Quality - Operations - The site	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-B2	Consider more frequent desludging of the treatment system and getting the inlet line jetted from debris to prevent a blockage.	31/03/2025
WQ-B2	Install a smaller access hatch to the sample grate to allow for ease of sampling.	28/04/2025
WQ-B2	Look in to getting the reed bed maintained and some of the dead vegetation removed.	26/05/2025

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

Compliance inspection of permit WQD009606 for Marcross STW undertaken by Environment Officers Harry Warburton and Alexander Grainger. Accompanied by VoG council. Weather at the time was dry.

The covers were lifted on the primary treatment unit, this was said to be desludged and maintained twice per year, this next visit was said to be start of March. There was evidence of some rising sludge on the outer section of the treatment unit, near the inlet. The inlet also had a build up of RAG in the pipe at the inlet which could become a blockage and spill from the previous manhole in the line. It was mentioned that it should be looked in to desludging the system more frequently throughout the year to prevent any excess build up and any blockages that may occur.



The reed bed seemed in good order for the time of year. There was some laying flat with other vegetation growth that could be limiting the growth of new reeds trying to grow. The sample point is following the reed bed, there was a small flow of effluent that appeared clear and odourless. The sample point access grate is still large and not very accessible for a sample to be taken without some effort. Discussions were had on site about having a smaller access hatch cut in to the grate to allow for easier sampling to take place. The stream was observed downstream of the works and the stream was looking clear and no signs of any adverse impacts.

Actions:

- Consider more frequent desludging throughout the year. As well as getting the inlet line jetted to clear out any blockages that may build up.
- Look in to getting the reed bed maintained and some of the dead vegetation removed.
- Install a smaller access hatch to the sample point grate.

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.