

Compliance Assessment Report CAR_NRW0048102

Licence being assessed: WA/057/0025/0015.
For: Taffs Well Quarry, held by Breedon Trading Ltd.
At: Heol Goch, Gwaelod-y-Garth, Cardiff, Cardiff, CF15 9JH.

Type of assessment: Site Inspection, Reason: Routine.
On 19/03/2025, between 09:45 and 11:00.
Parts of licence assessed: Relevant conditions

NRW Lead Officer: Alex Grabham, accompanied by Charlotte Rhodes.
Report sent to: Site Manager, Site Manager, on 14/04/2025.

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

Part of licenced activity assessed (criteria)	Assessment result	Licence condition
WR-A6 - Water Abstraction - Abstraction specified by licence - Quantities	C3 Minor	6.2
WR-B2 - Water Abstraction - Abstraction measurement and records - Recording	C3 Minor	8.1
WR-A1 - Water Abstraction - Abstraction specified by licence - Source of supply	Assessed (A)	
WR-A2 - Water Abstraction - Abstraction specified by licence - Points of abstraction	Assessed (A)	
WR-A3 - Water Abstraction - Abstraction specified by licence - Means of abstraction	Assessed (A)	
WR-A4 - Water Abstraction - Abstraction specified by licence - Purposes of abstraction	Assessed (A)	
WR-B1 - Water Abstraction - Abstraction measurement and records - Means of measurement	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
WR-A6	Operator to determine cause of over abstraction for dust suppression and action to ensure the licence condition is adhered to in future. If it is considered higher quantities are necessary for site activities, the Operator should submit an application for a licence variation. Operator to report findings to NRW	15/05/2025
WR-B2	Meter readings need to be taken and recorded on a weekly basis to comply with licence condition. If the site want to	15/05/2025

Criteria	Action needed	Complete by
	continue to take monthly meter readings a request needs to be submitted to NRW for consideration	

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 or civil sanctions being imposed depending on the circumstances of the offence.

You are non-compliant with your licence.

We are currently considering taking enforcement action against you for the non-compliance recorded above. We will contact you in due course.

4. Details of our assessment

Site Report

Site inspection of Taffs Well quarry carried out by Environment Officers Alex Grabham and Charllotte Rhodes on 19/03/2025. Weather was dry and sunny.

Upon arrival we met with the site Manager. We were escorted to the quarry sump. There was no abstraction ongoing during our visit, and subsequently no discharge from the site.

The flow meters were not operating while onsite as there were no abstractions taking place. The Site manager explained they will visually inspect the water in the sump prior to pumping. If the water quality looks poor, he advised they do not pump or discharge.

Abstraction quantities

Maximum licensed abstraction quantities:

For **dewatering**:

255.5 cubic metres per hour

6,090 cubic metres per day

643,770 cubic metres per year

For **dust suppression**:

20 cubic metres per day

6,000 cubic metres per year

Abstraction returns submitted by operator displayed in table below. Dewatering quantities have been taken from the 'River' readings and dust suppression had been taken from the 'tank' readings. As previously confirmed.

Month	Dewatering (m3)		Dust suppression (m3)	
	Monthly total	Average daily	Monthly total	Average daily
April 2024	46094	1843.7	1327	53
May 2024	24056	962.2	1114	44.5

June 2024	12337	493.4	907	36.2
July 2024	19400	718.5	1081	40
August 2024	16024	616.3	919	35.3
September 2024	28119	1124.7	906	36.2
October 2024	62841	2327.4	997	36.9
November 2024	29196	1122.9	1081	41.5
December 2024	57281	2386.7	565	23.5
January 2025	52454	2017.4	1431	55
February 2025	34290	1428.7	1196	49.8
March 2025	34015	1308.2	1665	64
Annual total 2024/2025	416107		13189	

Please note, averages have been taken assuming a 6 day working week for abstraction.

As can be seen from the figures, the site had exceeded the maximum daily abstraction quantity for dust suppression and exceed the maximum annual quantity for the year 2024/2025.

Measurement of abstraction

The Site manager has submitted a calibration certificate for the dewatering discharge meter and the dust suppression meter. The calibration was carried out by rshydro, who found that the dewatering meter has an error margin of -0.31%. Both meters were calibrated in July 2024.

Records

The records submitted to NRW show the total readings for the abstractions for the month. Condition 8.1 states that the recordings of the meters should be taken at the same time **each week**, unless approved in writing by NRW. If the site would prefer to continue to submit monthly meter readings a request should be made to NRW for consideration.

Actions

- Meter readings need to be taken and recorded on a weekly basis to comply with licence condition. If the site want to continue to take monthly meter readings a request needs to be submitted to NRW for consideration. **By 15/05/2025.**
- Operator to determine cause of over abstraction for dust suppression and action to ensure the licence condition is adhered to in future. If it is considered higher quantities are necessary for site activities, the Operator should submit an application for a licence variation. Operator to report findings to NRW by **15/05/2025.**

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 licence is issued to you under the Water Resources Act 1991 as amended by the Water Act 2003. You have a responsibility to comply with the conditions of your licence 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.

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 resource action criteria (used in section 1 and 2):**WR A: Abstraction specified by Licence**

- WR-A1 Source of supply
- WR-A2 Points of abstraction
- WR-A3 Means of abstraction
- WR-A4 Purposes of abstraction
- WR-A5 Period of abstraction
- WR-A6 Quantities
- WR-A7 Land
- WR-A8 Other specified on licence

WR B: Abstraction measurement and records

- WR-B1 Means of measurement
- WR-B2 Recording
- WR-B3 Reporting

WR C: Surface / Groundwater level and protected flow

- WR-C1 Minimum hands-off flow/level requirements
- WR-C2 Flow/level measurement devices
- WR-C3 Recording
- WR-C4 Reporting

WR D: Environmental monitoring and information

- WR-D1 Recording
- WR-D2 Reporting
- WR-D3 Notifications

WR E: Fish and eel passage

- WR-E1 Infrastructure specified by licence
- WR-E2 Maintenance and records

WR F: Discharge

- WR-F1 Point of discharge
- WR-F2 Infrastructure
- WR-F3 Measurement
- WR-F4 Recording
- WR-F5 Reporting

WR G: Impoundment specified by licence

- WR-G1 Inland water to be impounded
- WR-G2 Manner and extent of impoundment
- WR-G3 Point(s) of impoundment
- WR-G4 Construction and removal requirements
- WR-G5 Other specified on licence

WR H: Borehole infrastructure

- WR-H1 Infrastructure and accessibility
- WR-H2 Maintenance and calibration

Enforcement response

Any licence condition non-compliance is an offence and we may take legal action against you. Action we take can include prosecution or civil sanctions. 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 (Mon to Fri 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.