

Compliance Assessment Report CAR_NRW0048311

Permit being assessed: BP0013502

For: Storm Overflow at Rhydlewis Wastewater Treatment Works, held by DWR CYMRU CYFYNGEDIG

At: Opposite 'Dolwern', Rhydlewis, Llandysul, SA44 5RE.

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

On 26/03/2025, between 09:51 and 10:29.

Parts of permit assessed: Conditions 2.1.1, 2.2.1, 2.3.1, 3.1.1, 3.1.3 and 3.1.4

NRW Lead Officer: Bethan Lewis, accompanied by: Ffion Quan.

Report sent to: CARS mailbox, CARS mailbox, on 16/05/2025.

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-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?

No action required.

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 was a pre-planned site inspection of the storm overflow at Rhydlewis Wastewater Treatment Works (WwTW) (permit number: BP0013502) carried out by Natural Resources Wales (NRW) Officers Bethan Lewis and Ffion Quan. The NRW Officers were accompanied during the inspection by a Dŵr Cymru Welsh Water (DCWW) Operational Supervisor.

For observations concerning the final effluent permit at Rhydlewis WwTW (permit number: BP0013501), please refer to Compliance Assessment Report (CAR): CAR_NRW0048305.

For observations concerning Rhydlewis Pumping Station (PS) No 1 storm and emergency discharge permit (permit number: BP0013503), please refer to CAR: CAR_NRW0048315.

Summary

The site inspection commenced at 09:51 hours on the 26 March 2025 and concluded at 10:29 hours. The weather at the time of the inspection was dry and sunny. The previous day's weather was cloudy and mostly dry.

The NRW Officers were led through the storm discharge process by the DCWW Operational Supervisor.

Rhydlewis WwTW is visited by a site operator three times a week. The population equivalent for the site is believed to be 198.

Storm Discharge Process

At the inlet to Rhydlewis WwTW, excess flows are diverted to the wet well of the pumping station situated on site (Rhydlewis PS No 1). Flows sent to the pumping station wet well are recorded by an EDMS monitor (Event Duration Monitor Storm) shown in photograph 1 below. At the time of the inspection, all sewage arriving at the inlet was being passed forward to full treatment. No sewage was being diverted to the pumping station wet well.



Photograph 1: Rhydlewis WwTW inlet and EDMS monitor

The pumping station at Rhydlewis WwTW is shown in photograph 2 below. Sewage present in the pumping station's wet well is pumped up to the inlet of Rhydlewis WwTW, however if the level of sewage in the wet well exceeds a certain level, a spill occurs into the Nant Collen under permit number BP0013503. Spills under permit BP0013503 are recorded by an Event Duration Monitor (EDM) situated within the wet well.



Photograph 2: Pumping station at Rhydlewis WwTW. Wet well exists below grate.

According to DCWW's 2024 EDM data, the EDMS monitor at Rhydlewis WwTW's inlet recorded 77 block counted spills into the pumping station wet well lasting 1146 hours in 2024. The EDM monitor within the pumping station wet well recorded 73 block counted spills into the Nant Collen lasting 667 hours. Both monitors were operational 99% of the time.

As far as NRW is aware, no storm discharges are currently being made into the Nant Collen at SN 34590 47299 as permitted under permit BP0013502. All storm discharges from Rhydlewis WwTW are currently being made into the Nant Collen at SN 34608 47317 under permit BP0013503. These discharges derive from the wet well of Rhydlewis PS No 1.

Final Comments

We wish to thank the DCWW Operational Supervisor for accompanying the NRW Officers at the time of the above inspection. If DCWW wish to discuss the content of this CAR, we encourage them to contact the NRW Officer noted above.

In this document 'Natural Resources Wales' means the Natural Resources Body for Wales established by Article 3 of the Natural Resources Body for Wales (Establishment) order 2012.

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.