

Compliance Assessment Report CAR_NRW0048439

Permit being assessed: BH0057801

For: Tregaron Wastewater Treatment Works, held by DWR CYMRU CYFYNGEDIG

At: Track from Ystrad Caron, Tregaron, Ceredigion, SY25 6HG.

Type of assessment carried out: Check Monitoring/Sampling, Reason: Routine.
On 13/05/2025.

Parts of permit assessed: Condition 3.3.1, 3.3.2 and 4.2.2

NRW Lead Officer: Bethan Lewis, accompanied by: Sarah Atkinson.

Report sent to: CARS mailbox, CARS mailbox, on 03/06/2025.

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

Part of permitted activity assessed (criteria)	Assessment result	Permit condition
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-C1	Improve quality of evidence used to support no-flows.	28/02/2026

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

Tregaron Wastewater Treatment Works (WwTW) permit BH0057801 requires the operator Dŵr Cymru Welsh Water (DCWW) to periodically collect final effluent samples and submit the analytical results of these to Natural Resources Wales (NRW). Sampling dates are pre-scheduled in advance to cover a calendar year. In 2024, final effluent samples were due to be collected from Tregaron WwTW on the 22 February and 05 April, however no-flows were recorded at the final effluent sample point on these dates, meaning that final effluent samples were not collected.

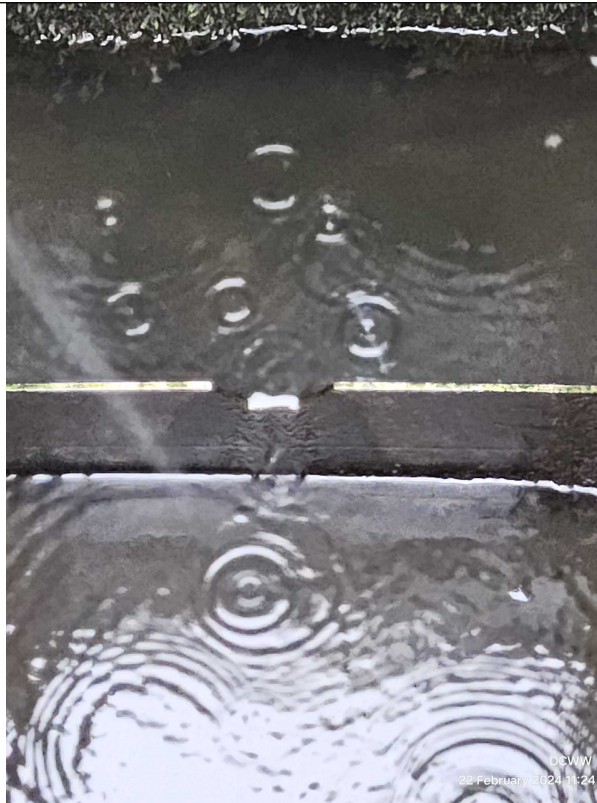
Whilst no-flow samples are automatically deemed compliant and do not need to be

rescheduled, DCWW must provide sufficient evidence to demonstrate that a final effluent sample could not be collected at the time of sampling.

DCWW supplied photographs 1-4 below as evidence that final effluent samples could not be collected on the 22 February and 05 April 2024 respectively.



Photograph 1: DCWW no-flow evidence 22 February 2024



Photograph 2: DCWW no-flow evidence 22 February 2024



Photograph 3: DCWW no-flow evidence 05 April 2024



Photograph 4: DCWW no-flow evidence 05 April 2024

It was not immediately clear to NRW what photographs 1-4 were showing - whether they were showing a flow of final effluent from the smaller to larger rectangle (or vice versa), or no flow in either direction. NRW therefore requested further information from DCWW.

DCWW stated that final effluent initially flows into the larger of the two rectangles shown in photographs 1-4 before spilling over the v-notch into the smaller rectangle. During low river levels, DCWW state that final effluent naturally flows out to the river headwall, however during high river levels, the final effluent sample point backs up, as appears to have happened on the 22 February 2024 (photographs 1 and 2), causing effluent to flow from the smaller rectangle into the larger rectangle.

For comparative purposes, DCWW were asked to supply a photograph showing Tregaron WwTW's final effluent sample point during normal flow conditions. In response, DCWW supplied photograph 5 below taken on the 13 May 2025. Photograph 5 clearly shows final effluent flowing over the v-notch from the larger to the smaller rectangle.



Photograph 5: Tregaron WwTW final effluent sample point on 13 May 2025

Given the additional information and photograph supplied by DCWW, NRW has decided to accept DCWW's evidence for the no-flows recorded at Tregaron WwTW on the 22 February and 05 April 2024. DCWW are however asked to improve the quality of their no-flow evidence to avoid the need for protracted discussions between NRW and DCWW (as above) in future. A due date of the **28 February 2026** has been set for this to cover the period that DCWW may submit further no-flow evidence for 2025.

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.