

Compliance Assessment Report CAR_NRW0048836

Licence being assessed: 21/57/24/0055.

For: Top Lake Cwmclydach Phase 1, held by Cwm Clydach Community Development Trust.
At: Cwmclydach Community Development Centre, Clydach Road, Tonypandy, Rhondda Cynon Taff, CF40 2BD.

Type of assessment: Site Inspection, Reason: Routine.

On 11/07/2025, between 12:25 and 13:05.

Parts of licence assessed: All

NRW Lead Officer: Ceri Malone, accompanied by Emily Roe01.

Report sent to: Phil Williams, Volunteer, on 16/07/2025.

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

Part of licenced activity assessed (criteria)	Assessment result	Licence condition
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-C1 - Water Abstraction - Surface/groundwater level and protected flow - Minimum hands-off flow/level requirements	Assessed (A)	
WR-F1 - Water Abstraction - Discharge - Point of discharge	Assessed (A)	
WR-B2 - Water Abstraction - Abstraction measurement and records - Recording	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
WR-B2	Submit all outstanding returns data. This can be completed online.	16/08/2025

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

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**21/57/24/0055 Cwm Clydach Community Development Trust****Site Report**

A site compliance visit to inspect the hydropower scheme at Nant Clydach, Clydach Vale Country Park, Tonypany, Rhondda Cynon Taff was completed on 11/07/2025. Two Natural Resources Wales (NRW) Environment Officers were in attendance. The weather was clear and warm with low rainfall over the past few weeks.

At 12:30 there was no noise from the generator at the turbine house, we have assumed the system was not operating at this time. The outfall was checked which was located at NGR SS 98047 92834 as per condition 9.2 of the license. There was a discharge from the outfall at 12:37. There is no condition on the licence which states that water mustn't flow through the turbine when not generating, and so this is compliant. Some grass was present on top of the outfall grate however this was not impeding water flow (*photograph 1*).



Photograph 1: Outfall

At 12:54 the abstraction was checked at the top lake. It was located at NGR SS 96509 92716 as per 2.1 of the license (*photograph 2*). The weir appeared clear of debris and water was flowing downstream of the intake. Visually this appeared to be >13l/s therefore

compliant with condition 9.1 (*photograph 3*). Assessing the exact structure of the intake was not possible due to the concrete cover however no changes to the structure were apparent when comparing to previous years photographs.



Photograph 2: Intake



Photograph 3: Flow Immediately Downstream

Maximum quantities of water abstracted could not be assessed as returns data has not been submitted for the past two years.

Action required by dates specified:

Submit all outstanding returns data by 16/08/2025. This can be completed online:

[Natural Resources Wales / Submit your water abstraction return](#)

For any queries or assistance with using the online portal to upload returns please use the following contact stating your license number:

waterresources.returns@cyfoethnaturiolcymru.gov.uk

Contact details:

If you have any other queries regarding this CAR form or to provide an update on any actions above, please contact me using the following details: Ceri Malone, Environment Officer, Ceri.Malone@naturalresourceswales.gov.uk

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.