

Compliance Assessment Report CAR_NRW0049899

Permit being assessed: BP0237413

For: CSO and EO at East Burrows Road Car Park, Swansea, held by DWR CYMRU CYFYNGEDIG

At: East Burrows Road Car Park, Somerset Place, Swansea, SA1 1RR.

Type of assessment carried out: Other, Reason: Incident Response (Incident number: 2509085).

On 06/10/2025.

Parts of permit assessed: Permitted activities. Operations. Notifications.

NRW Lead Officer: Sarah Bennett.

Report sent to: CARS@dwrwymru.com, CARS Mailbox, on 14/11/2025.

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	C3 Minor	2.1.1

Result types are explained in more detail in the 'Important Information' section below.

2. What action is required?

Criteria	Action needed	Complete by
WQ-B1	Action: Please ensure that your management systems for Swansea WwTW highlight the risk of crude sewage being discharged into Swansea Bay from East Burrows CSO/EO when flows arriving at Swansea WwTW are being controlled at Langdon Road SPS in order to manage an emergency or maintenance at the works.	30/01/2026

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

This compliance report relates to a discharge made from the CSO/EO at East Burrows Road Car Park, Swansea when flows to Swansea Wastewater Treatment Works (WwTW)

were being controlled at Langdon Road terminal Sewage Pumping Station (SPS) during an electrical failure at the works.

The permit for the Emergency Overflow (EO) relating to Langdon Road SPS allows a discharge to take place at East Burrows CSO/EO when the SPS is inoperative due to the reasons given in the permit. The outfall at East Burrows CSO/EO is approximately 1km away from Langdon Road SPS.

On the 06 October 2025 09:20 we received an initial OPNOT for Swansea WwTW informing us that there had been an unplanned power outage, flows on site were being monitored and managed and you did not expect there to be an environmental impact.

On the 08 October 2025 at 07:56 you submitted a self-reported incident via a Watpol after it was noted that there had been a spill from the EO at East Burrows Road Car Park.

The Watpol informed us that East Burrows SPS CSO/EO had gone into emergency spill following a total power failure at Swansea Bay WWTW. The flows to the works from Langdon Road SPS had to be isolated in order to replace the HV breaker at Swansea Bay WWTW. The flow backed up and discharged from East Burrows CSO from 16:45 to 18:00 on the 6th October 2025. The HV breaker was replaced successfully, and flow was returned to Swansea WwTW from Langdon Road SPS.

Condition 2.1.1 states that the only activities authorised by the permit in place at East Burrows CSO/EO are the activities specified in schedule 1 table S1.1 which includes a discharge of sewage in emergency via East Burrows CSO outfall.

An emergency shall be defined as the period when the sewage pumping station is inoperative as a result of one or more of the following, which is not due to the act or default of the operator, its agents, representatives, officers, employees or servants;

- electrical power failure;
- mechanical breakdown of duty and standby pumps;
- rising main failure;
- blockage of the downstream sewer.

As the electrical failure occurred at Swansea WwTW and not Langdon Road SPS the conditions of the permit do not cover the discharge that took place. I have therefore recorded the discharge as a C3 non-compliance.

Condition 4.3.1 requires you to notify us as soon as reasonably practicable following detection, within the site of the regulated facility of any malfunction, breakdown or failure of equipment or techniques, accident, or emission of a substance not controlled by an emission limit which has caused, is causing or may cause significant pollution.

Emergency discharges of crude sewage to the environment have the potential to cause significant pollution and should be reported to us as soon as possible.

Action: Please ensure that your management systems for Swansea WwTW highlight the risk of crude sewage being discharged into Swansea Bay from East Burrows

CSO/EO when flows arriving at Swansea WwTW are being controlled at Langdon Road SPS in order to manage an emergency or maintenance at the works.

You have informed us that you maintain all the high voltage assets and all the protection devices up to and including the primary LV ACB but the ACB that failed is the main incomer to MCC 'H' and it was not included on your maintenance schedule.

My understanding is that carrying out maintenance on all ACB's on site requires long periods of shutdowns which can exceed the storage capacities at the terminal pumping stations and introduce a high risk of electrical component failure when isolating and restoring mains power to site. You have requested a new maintenance plan for all ACB's to be maintained in Swansea Bay by your electrical safety team.

Thank you.

End

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.