

Compliance Assessment Report CAR_NRW0049996

Permit being assessed: AB0046601

For: Llanybi (Usk) Wastewater Treatment Works, held by DWR CYMRU CYFYNGEDIG
At: Behind Vine Tree Cottage, Llanybi, Gwent, Monmouthshire, NP15 1NP.

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

On 21/10/2025, between 10:00 and 10:45.

Parts of permit assessed: Whole permit

NRW Lead Officer: Peter Jones.

Report sent to: DCWW, Car@dwrwymru.com , on 09/12/2025.

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

Part of permitted activity assessed (criteria)	Assessment result	Permit condition
WQ-D2 - Water Quality - Information - Reporting	C3 Minor	4.3.1
WQ-C1 - Water Quality - Emissions and monitoring - Emissions to water	C3 Minor	3.3.7

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

2. What action is required?

Criteria	Action needed	Complete by
WQ-D2	Improve operations	15/01/2026
WQ-C1	Improve operations	15/01/2026

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.

You are non-compliant with your permit.

At this time, we are issuing you with a warning for the non-compliance recorded above. Warnings may influence future enforcement response for continued or further non-compliance.

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

Routine site inspection of Llanybi STW, permit number AB0046601 carried out by Environment

Officer Peter Jones.

Observations

Effluent enters the works and passes through a 6 millimetre screen. After screening, flows enter a balancing tank, after which the flow splits and passes into two primary settlement tanks. These tanks also function as storm tanks. Settled sludge is drawn off from the PST's and passed to the sludge holding tank. The PSTs are currently covered with netting to prevent leaves from entering the system, to reduce the risk of blockages in the network.

Flow from the PSTs passes past the storm weir, the overflow setting is 5.3 litres per second. At the time of the visit, effluent was being discharged to the storm channel.

However, there was an issue with the flow past forward meter. The readings on the meter were constantly swinging between 2.7 and 5.8 litres per second. The observed flow looked to be constant rather than fluctuating as the meter indicated.

NRW should have been advised there was an issue with the flow meters on site. Not having reported the issue is a breach under permit condition 4.3.1 (a).

Condition 4.3.1 (a) states:

Natural Resources Wales shall be notified as soon as reasonably practicable following detection, within the site of the regulated facility of:

- a. 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.

After passing the storm weir, the effluent enters the Rotating Biological Contactor (RBC). The rotary arm within the RBC was operating and the effluent was being treated as designed. From the RBC the flow was discharge to the humus tank for final settlement before being discharged to the final effluent chamber. As with the MCERT Flow Passed Forward meter the MCERT flow monitoring meter was providing false readings – the meter reading was swinging between 2.8 and 5.7 l/s. The observed flow did not reflect the readings shown on the flow meter.

The EDM overflow meter within the control room, was not providing accurate readings. Whilst the effluent was discharging over the weir to storm, the metre was providing a reading of 284 mm. The spill height on the MCERT calibration is 348 mm.

This is a breach of permit condition 3.3.7.

Condition 3.3.7 states:

The Operator shall take appropriate measures to ensure that the event recorder remains fully operational at all times within the reference period specified in table S3.1. Any failures shall be remedied as soon as reasonably practicable.

The final effluent sample point and the UWWT sample points are clearly labelled and accessible.

The final effluent and storm discharge combines in the final effluent chamber before being discharged to the River Usk at grid reference ST38477960090. The final discharge point was not checked during this site visit. During the inspection there was no evidence of the storm effluent having surcharged from the manhole located behind the control room. The issue of effluent entering the control room also looks to have been resolved.

Actions

As per condition 3.3.9 (d) you should now take all reasonable measures to return the flow and/or overflow operation monitoring equipment to normal operations.

As per condition 4.3.1, inform NRW of issues which may effect the operability of the works.

Photographs from the inspection are attached to the CAR.

- PST, netting is to prevent leaf litter from entering the tanks and restricting flow.
- Storm tank spilling, meter reading does not correspond with actual flow level.
- Flow meter – readings swinging between 2.8 and 5.72 l/s
- Sample points clearly labelled.
- EDM meter providing inaccurate readings.
- Calibration document showing spill height at 348 mm.

Please provide a response to the CAR by the 15th of January outlining the actions taken to resolve the issue raised in the report. If you have any queries with this car form please contact me on the following e-mail address:

Peter.A.Jones@cyfoethnaturiolcymru.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 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.