

Compliance Assessment Report CAR_NRW0050303

Permit being assessed: BO5115401

For: SCURLAGE SPS SCURLAGE SWANSEA, held by DWR CYMRU CYFYNGEDIG
At: SCURALGE SEWAGE PUMPING STATION., SCURLAGE, SWANSEA, WALES, .

Type of assessment carried out: Other, Reason: Incident Response (Incident number: 2510925).

On 05/12/2025.

Parts of permit assessed: 1. Nature, 6. Composition and 8. Telemetry

NRW Lead Officer: Sarah Bennett.

Report sent to: CARS@dwrcymru.com, CARS Mailbox, on 08/01/2026.

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

Part of permitted activity assessed (criteria)	Assessment result	Permit condition
WQ-D3 - Water Quality - Information - Notifications	Assessed (A)	
WQ-C1 - Water Quality - Emissions and monitoring - Emissions to water	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

The purpose of this Compliance Assessment Report (CAR) is to:

- Record our compliance assessment of a discharge which took place on the 05/12/2025.
- Record any actions you have taken or have proposed to take to bring the discharge back into compliance.
- Record the status of the Emergency Overflow under Guidance Note 021 –

Unpermitted Storm Overflows.

- Record any completed actions from previous CARS.

Compliance assessment relating to a discharge which took place on the 05/12/2025

Condition 1 Nature of the emergency overflow permit in place at Scurlage Sewage Pumping Station (SPS) states that the discharge shall consist solely of sewage in an emergency. There is no storm overflow permit in place here. Any discharges of storm sewage are in breach of this permit condition and contravene Regulation 38 (2) of the Environmental Permitting (England and Wales) Regulations 2016 which states that it is an offence for a person to fail to comply with or to contravene an environmental permit condition.

On the 5 December 2025 you reported to us that Scurlage SPS had become hydraulically overloaded and was discharging storm sewage from the permitted Emergency Overflow (EO).

The EO started discharging on the 1 December 2025 during a prolonged period of rainfall. The telemetry confirmed that the spill stopped on the 17 December 2025. During this time there was flooding in the area which resulted in road closures near to the SPS.

We are already aware that the EO at this SPS is responsive to rainfall and high water tables. The ongoing non-compliance with your permit has previously been recorded in CAR_NRW0042935 issued on the 7 December 2023 with a Warning.

Since then, you have been taking steps to reduce infiltration in the network and until this recent prolonged spill, the numbers of spills appear to have reduced in 2025, both in frequency and duration.

Condition 8(b) Telemetry requires that you notify us as soon as practicable after receipt of an overflow telemetry warning, that operation of the emergency overflow has taken place. Whilst there was a delay in us being notified, due to the widespread flooding that was occurring at the time we consider that you notified us as soon as practicable given that the overflow was operating as a storm overflow and not discharging crude sewage. I have recorded compliance with this condition.

Actions you have taken or have proposed to take to bring the discharge back into compliance

We understand that so far, the following work has been carried out.

- Continual investigations via lift and look along with CCTV surveys to locate infiltration of surface water.
- Infiltration between construction joint of EO and wet well identified.
- Testing of storm storage tank identified no infiltration entering the tank or failures in its construction.
- Lining of significant length of sewers and sealing of inspection covers to prevent infiltration has been completed.

- Installation of a flap valve on the EO outfall to prevent reverse flow into the SPS from flooding in the area.

In the pollution reduction plans you have sent to us you have proposed to carry out the following interventions and investigations with the aim of further reducing infiltration:

- Sealing of the storm storage tank/wet well return construction joints at the SPS to prevent ground water infiltration direct into the asset wet well.
- Lining of the EO overflow pipe from the wet well to the chamber outside the SPS compound.
- Sealing of the manhole cover on the SPS storage tank to prevent infiltration/surface water run-off entering the network.
- Installation of flow monitors to understand how much sewage is being passed forward from Scurlage SPS to Knelston SPS.
- Excavate a section of public sewer to survey a source of high inflows of clear water.
- Installation of 5 cello units in the sewer network to identify sections of the sewer network which may have high inflows from private drainage.
- Further investigations on private laterals and drains to identify ground water inflow.
- Further investigations in areas prone to flooding from highway or overland run-off where surface water could potentially enter the public sewer.
- Capping off any redundant connections, or further sewer lining pending outcome of any investigations.

Record the status of the Emergency Overflow under Guidance Note 021 – Unpermitted Storm Overflows

My understanding is that the Emergency Overflow was entered onto the register of Unpermitted Storm Overflows on the 11/4/2024. The EO has yet to be formally investigated and assessed under section 5 of GN021, however, some of the work already carried out will be relevant to this assessment.

Event Duration Monitoring has been installed on the Emergency Overflow. The 2024 data you submitted to us (not a permit requirement) showed that 121 spills were recorded and the monitor was operational 99.97% of the time.

Completed actions from previous CARS

Following an inspection carried out on the 1 August 2024 during which we could not access the screen chamber we asked you in CAR_NRW0045150 to inspect the screen and report back to us with your findings. You provided us with a photograph of the screen showing that it is in good order and clean. See attached photograph.

Permit condition 6(a) Composition requires that any discharges shall not contain a significant quantity of solid matter having size greater than 10mm in more than two dimensions. The screen in place would appear to prevent the discharge of solids greater than 10 mm in more than two dimensions.

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.