

Compliance Assessment Report CAR_NRW0050688

Permit being assessed: BP0236603

For: CSO and EO at Knab Rock Sewage Pumping Station, **held by:** DWR CYMRU CYFYNGEDIG

At: Mumbles Road, Opposite Car Park, Knab Rock, Mumbles, Swansea, Swansea, SA3 4EN.

Type of assessment carried out: Other,

Reason: Routine.

On 13/02/2026.

Parts of permit assessed: 2.3 Operating Techniques

NRW Lead Officer: Sarah Bennett.

Report sent to: CARS@dwrwymru.com, CARS mailbox, on 20/02/2026.

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

Part of permitted activity assessed (criteria)	Assessment result	Non-compliant permit condition
WQ-B3 - Water Quality - Operations - Operating techniques	C3 Minor	2.3.2 (d)

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

2. What action is required?

Criteria	Action needed	Complete by
WQ-B3	Action: Please provide us with more information on your response to the alarms that were raised at Knab Rock SPS, including timelines, and if you have made any changes to the alarms and/or response times following this incident.	27/03/2026

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

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

- Record our compliance assessment of a discharge made from Knab Rock Sewage Pumping Station (SPS) Combined Sewer Overflow.

On the 09/01/2026 you informed us that you responded to an alarm at Knab Rock SPS and found both of the escalator screens had stopped working. This had caused them to blind and the storm overflow bypassed the screens into the tidal storage tanks. Any flows entering the tidal tank are then discharged to the environment.

Condition 2.3.2 of your permit requires you to screen storm discharges made from Knab Rock SPS.

Condition 2.3.2 For the discharge specified in table S3.3 (storm sewage):

(c) The discharge shall not be comminuted or macerated and shall have passed through screens as specified (no greater than 6 mm in more than 1 dimension) and shall not contain a significant quantity of solid matter with a particle size greater than any indicated. All screenings shall be removed from the discharge.

I believe that the discharge of unscreened sewage which occurred was a breach of this permit condition and in contravention with 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.

You have informed us that remedial action has been taken to ensure that both screens do not become unavailable at the same time. A new gearbox has been fitted onto one screen and a new brush ordered for the other. I understand that both screens can currently operate.

Please ensure that the screens are maintained to a level where they do not both become unavailable. You have informed us that you have ordered critical spares to minimize the risk of re-occurrence.

Condition 2.3.2 (d) requires the following:

Condition 2.3.2 (d) Where a mechanically cleaned screen is installed, a telemetry alarm system shall be installed and maintained, as far as reasonably practicable, so as to give the operator immediate notification of a failure of the screen cleaning mechanism, unless otherwise agreed in writing by Natural Resources Wales. The operator shall take all appropriate measures to return the screen cleaning mechanism to normal operation as soon as reasonably practicable after receipt of notification of the failure.

Action: Please provide us with more information on your response to the alarms that were raised at Knab Rock SPS, including timelines, and if you have made any changes to the alarms and/or response times following this incident.

Any Advice and Guidance in this report is given formally as part of our enforcement response.

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 required for the permit condition assessed to avoid non-compliance. No non-compliance scored at this time
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

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 Monitoring
- WQ-C5 Installation of monitoring boreholes

WQ D: Information

- WQ-D1 Records
- WQ-D2 Reporting
- WQ-D3 Notifications

Enforcement response

Any non-compliance with a permit condition 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 twenty working days to let you know if we agree to your request.

Disputing the Content of this Compliance Assessment Report Form

If you disagree with the content of this Compliance Assessment Report form, you should submit your concerns, in writing, to the regulating officer who issued it within **15 working days** of its issue. This will be treated as a **Stage 1 review**.

If you are not satisfied with the outcome of the stage 1 review, you may request a **Stage 2 appeal**. This request must be submitted **within 21 working days** of receiving the response from the stage 1 review.

Further details on our review and appeal process are available at: [Natural Resources Wales / Appeal a regulatory decision from Natural Resources Wales](#)

Concerns Not Related to the Content of this Compliance Assessment Report Form

If your concerns do not relate to the content of the Compliance Assessment Report form, you should first attempt to resolve the issue with the regulating officer or their line manager.

If the issue remains unresolved, please contact our **Customer Contact Team**:

- **Telephone:** 0300 065 3000 (Monday to Friday, 09:00–17:00)
- **Email:** enquiries@naturalresourceswales.gov.uk

They will provide details on how to escalate your concerns through our **Complaints and Commendations procedure**.

If you are dissatisfied with our response, you may contact the **Public Services Ombudsman for Wales**:

- **Telephone:** 0300 790 0203
- **Email:** 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.