

Compliance Assessment Report CAR_NRW0048352

Permit being assessed: AB0044801

For: Usk Wastewater Treatment Works, **held by:** DWR CYMRU CYFYNGEDIG

At: Graig Olway Farm Llangview, Off Usk Road, Usk, Monmouthshire, NP15 1NB.

Type of assessment carried out: Check Monitoring/Sampling,

Reason: Other.

On 15/05/2025, between 11:11 and 11:30.

Parts of permit assessed: Emissions and Monitoring

NRW Lead Officer: Peter Jones, accompanied by: Sarah Atkinson.

Report sent to: DCWW, cars@dwrwymru.com, on 18/05/2026.

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

Part of permitted activity assessed (criteria)	Assessment result	Non-compliant permit condition
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

Please note that the CAR is dated 31 Dec 24 as this compliance report relates to annual 2024 data. However, I carried out the compliance assessment on 21 May 2025.

Following an audit of the Annual Summary Report for the UWWT , OSM and UV. A query was

raised as to whether representative samples could be taken from the sample points in the event of elevated river levels. Which would lead to the anti-flood valve closing at the final effluent discharge point, grid reference ST 38680 99449. Concerns were raised, that if the discharge of treated effluent stopped and the flow backed up in the sample chamber. A sample of the effluent in this situation would not be considered to be representative of effluent discharged from the works.

Permit condition 3.1.3 states:

- a. For the emission limits in schedule 3 table S3.1 to which this condition applies, no sample of the discharge taken at a time when unusual weather conditions are adversely affecting the operation of the waste water treatment works, shall be taken into account in deciding whether or not the emission limit has been complied with.
- b. On any occasion where unusual weather conditions adversely affect the operation of the waste water treatment works, the operator shall use its best endeavours to mitigate that adverse effect.
- c. For any sample of the discharge taken to be considered for the purposes of (a) above, the operator shall notify Natural Resources Wales in writing within 14 days of becoming aware that an emission limit has been exceeded. That notification shall include a full description of the unusual weather conditions and their impact on the operation of the works.

To clarify the matter, a site inspection by NRW staff, Peter Jones and Sarah Atkins, accompanied by DCWW staff was undertaken on the 15 May 2025. Having checked the sample points and having been advised by DCWW staff, the final effluent would not back up due to weather conditions, such as flooding. NRW is satisfied an UWWT and OSM samples can be taken during flood conditions and the samples will be considered to be representative.

However, should circumstances arise where the final effluent did back up in the sample chamber, NRW will not consider a sample taken at such a time to be a representative sample of the treated effluent discharged from the works. Should this situation occur or if access to the site cannot be gained due to a flood event. The procedures set out in the relevant sections of condition 3.3 Monitoring should be followed.

For OSM samples section 3.3.6 states:

After becoming aware, or following a notification that a sample has not been taken on the schedule 3B Monitoring Programme pre-schedule date, or is lost, or a result for that sample cannot be reported, the operator shall record the details and reschedule the sample.

For Urban Waste Water Treatments Regulation samples section 3.3.8 state:

Unless otherwise agreed in writing by Natural Resources Wales, after becoming aware, or following notification that a sample has not been taken on the schedule 3C Monitoring programme prescheduled date, or is lost, or a result for that sample cannot be reported, the operator shall notify Natural Resources Wales of the missed event and the reschedule date as soon as reasonably practicable.

During the inspection it was noted the UWWT sampling point sign was in the wrong location. It was next to the OSM sampling point. This may lead to samples being taken at the wrong location. Please ensure the sign is moved to the UWWT sample point. Please see attached photographs. The first

photograph shows the location of the sign, the second photograph shows the UWWT sample point.
Given this CAR form relates to the Annual Summary Report for the UWWT , OSM and UV. I have addressed this issue in CAR form CAR_NRW0048376 which covers the sites annual inspection.

If you have any questions regarding this CAR form, please contact me by e-mail or speak to me directly.

Mobile number: 07760443974

Peter.A.Jones@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 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.