

Compliance Assessment Report CAR_NRW0052500

Permit being assessed: AC0140301

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

At: Sennybridge Army Camp, Sennybridge, Powys, LD3 8TS.

Type of assessment carried out: Site Inspection,

Reason: Routine.

On 09/07/2026, between 10:56 and 11:30.

Parts of permit assessed: Various

NRW Lead Officer: Chris Gurney, accompanied by: Frankie Farrell.

Report sent to: Regulatory Compliance Officer, Regulatory Compliance Officer, on 30/07/2026.

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

Part of permitted activity assessed (criteria)	Assessment result	Non-compliant permit condition
WQ-B2 - Water Quality - Operations - The site	C4 No impact	1.1.1
WQ-B3 - Water Quality - Operations - Operating techniques	C4 No impact	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-B2	Investigate and undertake any necessary repairs to contain effluent adequately.	11/09/2026
WQ-B3	Investigate options for either covering the affected stack pipes or removing them.	11/09/2026

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

On 9th July 2026 myself and Frankie Farrell attended site on a pre-arranged OSM inspection, the weather was hot and sunny in a period of hot weather. We were met on site by the Area Supervisor and Senior Process Scientist, thank you both for your time during the inspections.

We started at the inlet where all flows pass through a screen and compactor which empties to an adjacent skip. Flows then pass along a channel with a storm weir and EDM sensor, into the Primary Settlement Tanks. There is no storm storage on site, any storm discharges direct to the environment. Both primary tanks had a relatively thick, even surface layer of solids. This may need further attention to avoid carryover but didn't appear to be impacting treatment at the time of inspection.

The South-Western corner showed effluent seeping through the brickwork and will need repairs as soon as possible to avoid any impact. Given there is no wider environmental impact this has been classed as a Cat 4 breach.

ACTION: Investigate and undertake any necessary repairs to contain the effluent adequately.

There was no significant issues though the effluent was quite coloured, possibly due to the works undertaken by the operator on site. Flows are split in a distribution chamber and pass through MCERTS Flow meters to two filter beds. Both had even distribution and the arms were turning freely. One of the storm arms on both filter beds was discharging, suggesting a slight imbalance and potentially issues with flows given the dry conditions (the operator on site had been undertaking normal maintenance jobs which would have increased flows beyond 'normal', however it is unclear if this should have caused the storm arms to discharge). The central area between the two filters had several ventilation stacks that had no cowl covers, which means some of the effluent would be entering these pipes and bypassing treatment. This has been classed as a Cat 4 breach in this instance, due to the low volumes and intermittent occurrence.

ACTION: Investigate options for either covering the affected stack pipes or removing them.

Flows then get split across two Humus tanks, flows appeared to be favouring the one tank but again this appeared to be due to works on site by the Operator. Flows from both were running clear with no obvious signs of any issues.

There are two sludge holding tanks on site but one has not been in use for some time, both are banded. It was discussed on site there is a scheme in development to include storm storage on site which would be welcomed. Overall the site is looking tired and in need of further investment.

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.