Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru
Natural Resources Wales

Compliance Assessment Report CAR_NRW0052725

Licence being assessed: 21/57/24/0055.

For: Top Lake Cwmclydach Phase 1, **held by:** Cwm Clydach Community Development Trust.

At: Cwmclydach Community Development Centre, Clydach Road, Tonypandy, Rhondda Cynon Taff, CF40 2BD.

Type of assessment: Site Inspection,

Reason: Routine.

On: 29/07/2026, between 13:00 and 14:00.

Parts of licence assessed: All

NRW Lead Officer: Ceri Malone, accompanied by Callum Murray.

Report sent to: Phil Williams, Volunteer, on 01/09/2026.

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

Part of licenced activity assessed (criteria)	Assessment result	Non-compliant licence condition
WR-A2 - Water Abstraction - Abstraction specified by licence - Points of abstraction	Assessed (A)	
WR-A3 - Water Abstraction - Abstraction specified by licence - Means of abstraction	Assessed (A)	
WR-A4 - Water Abstraction - Abstraction specified by licence - Purposes of abstraction	Assessed (A)	
WR-C1 - Water Abstraction - Surface/groundwater level and protected flow - Minimum hands-off flow/level requirements	Assessed (A)	
WR-F1 - Water Abstraction - Discharge - Point of discharge	Assessed (A)	
WR-B2 - Water Abstraction - Abstraction measurement and records - Recording	Action only (X)	

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

2. What action is required?

Criteria	Action needed	Complete by
WR-B2	Submit abstraction returns data for 2025-2026. This can be	30/09/2026

Criteria	Action needed	Complete by
	completed online	

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 or civil sanctions being imposed depending on the circumstances of the offence.

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

21/57/24/0055 Cwm Clydach Community Development Trust

Site Report

A site compliance visit to inspect the hydropower scheme at Nant Clydach, Clydach Vale Country Park, Tonypandy, Rhondda Cynon Taff was completed on 29/07/2026. Two Natural Resources Wales (NRW) Environment Officers were in attendance. The weather was clear and warm with very low rainfall over the past few weeks.

At 13:10 the abstraction was checked at the top lake. It was located at NGR SS 96509 92716 as per 2.1 of the license. The weir appeared clear of debris and water was flowing downstream of the intake. Visually this appeared to be >13L/s therefore compliant with condition 9.1 (*photograph 1*). Assessing the exact structure of the intake was not possible due to the concrete cover however no changes to the structure were apparent when comparing to previous years photographs.

Photograph 1: Flow Immediately Downstream

At 13:25 there was no noise from the generator at the turbine house, we assumed the system was not operating at this time. The outfall was checked which was located at NGR SS 98047 92834 as per condition 9.2 of the license. Some grass was present on top of the outfall grate however this would not impede the discharge of water *(photograph 2)*. No flow was seen at the outfall.

Photograph 2: Outfall

Abstraction quantities for the system have the following maximum limits set out in 6.0 of the licence:

- Hourly: 360m^3

- Daily: 8,640m^3
- Yearly: 1,837,560m^3

Abstraction data for the years 2023-2024 and 2024-2025 has been submitted and checked as part of this assessment. Average calculations from monthly submissions by the operator have shown that at no point have the abstraction limits been exceeded. Yearly abstraction records have been as follows:

21/57/24/0055 Yearly Abstraction			
Year	Abstraction Volume (m^3)	Limit (m^3)	Pass/Fail
2023-2024	1,626,564.822	1,837,560	Pass
2024-2025	1,041,026.886	1,837,560	Pass

Abstraction data for 2025-2026 has not been submitted, therefore has not been assessed.

We met a member of the community trust when exiting the country park. They confirmed that the hydropower was not currently operating and had not done so for weeks due to low flows. They stated they had not had any operational issues or changes in the last year.

Action required by dates specified:

Submit abstraction returns data for 2025-2026 by 30/09/2026. This can be completed online:

Natural Resources Wales / Submit your water abstraction return

For any queries or assistance with using the online portal to upload returns please use the following contact stating your license number:

waterresources.returns@cyfoethnaturiolcymru.gov.uk

Contact details:

If you have any queries regarding this CAR form or to provide an update on any actions above, please contact me using the following email address:
cwmtaf&bridgendconsultations@cyfoethnaturiolcymru.gov.uk

Ceri.Malone@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 licence is issued to you under the Water Resources Act 1991 as amended by the Water Act 2003. You have a responsibility to comply with the conditions of your licence 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.

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 licence 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 resource action criteria (used in section 1 and 2):

WR A: Abstraction specified by Licence

- WR-A1 Source of supply
- WR-A2 Points of abstraction
- WR-A3 Means of abstraction
- WR-A4 Purposes of abstraction
- WR-A5 Period of abstraction
- WR-A6 Quantities
- WR-A7 Land
- WR-A8 Other specified on licence

WR B: Abstraction measurement and records

- WR-B1 Means of measurement
- WR-B2 Recording
- WR-B3 Reporting

WR C: Surface / Groundwater level and protected flow

- WR-C1 Minimum hands-off flow/level requirements
- WR-C2 Flow/level measurement devices
- WR-C3 Recording
- WR-C4 Reporting

WR D: Environmental monitoring and information

- WR-D1 Recording
- WR-D2 Reporting
- WR-D3 Notifications

WR E: Fish and eel passage

- WR-E1 Infrastructure specified by licence
- WR-E2 Maintenance and records

WR F: Discharge

- WR-F1 Point of discharge
- WR-F2 Infrastructure
- WR-F3 Measurement
- WR-F4 Recording
- WR-F5 Reporting

WR G: Impoundment specified by licence

- WR-G1 Inland water to be impounded
- WR-G2 Manner and extent of impoundment
- WR-G3 Point(s) of impoundment
- WR-G4 Construction and removal requirements
- WR-G5 Other specified on licence

WR H: Borehole infrastructure

- WR-H1 Infrastructure and accessibility
- WR-H2 Maintenance and calibration

Enforcement response

Any non-compliance with a licence condition is an offence and we may take legal action against you. Action we take can include prosecution or civil sanctions. 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.