

Compliance Assessment Report CAR_NRW0052828

Licence being assessed: WA/064/0006/0032.

For: Blaen Tafolog, **held by:** Richard Anthony Roose & Ann Dominique Carpenter.

At: Mallwyd, Machynlleth, Powys, SY20 9HS.

Type of assessment: Site Inspection,

Reason: Routine.

On: 03/08/2026, between 12:04 and 12:54.

Parts of licence assessed: See criteria listed below

NRW Lead Officer: Bethan Lewis, accompanied by Shaun Rees.

Report sent to: Richard Roose, Licence Holder, on 07/09/2026.

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

Part of licenced activity assessed (criteria)	Assessment result	Non-compliant licence condition
WR-A1 - Water Abstraction - Abstraction specified by licence - Source of supply	Assessed (A)	
WR-A2 - Water Abstraction - Abstraction specified by licence - Points 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	C3 Minor	9.5(i)
WR-F1 - Water Abstraction - Discharge - Point of discharge	Assessed (A)	
WR-F2 - Water Abstraction - Discharge - Infrastructure	C3 Minor	9.7(i)
WR-A8 - Water Abstraction - Abstraction specified by licence - Other specified on licence	C3 Minor	9.3

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

2. What action is required?

Criteria	Action needed	Complete by
WR-C1	Clear stones from Hands off Flow (HoF) notch.	Already completed

Criteria	Action needed	Complete by
WR-F2	Install a vertical flat bar screen with spacing no greater than 20mm to the discharge outlet pipe and provide NRW with photographic evidence that this has been completed.	19/10/2026
WR-A8	Ensure that no water flows through the turbine if power is unable to be generated.	28/09/2026

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

You are non-compliant with your licence.

At this time, we are issuing you with a warning for the non-compliance recorded above. Warnings may influence future enforcement response for continued or further non-compliance.

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

An unannounced water resources inspection was carried out by Bethan Lewis and Shaun Rees from the North Powys Environment Team on the 03 August 2026 prompted by the drought status in North Wales and Upper Severn. The Natural Resources Wales (NRW) officers were met on site by Richard Roose, one of the two Licence Holders.

WR-A1 Source of Supply and WR-A2 Point of Abstraction

Water is abstracted from an unnamed tributary to the Afon Tafolog at Blaen Tafolog, Mallwyd, Machynlleth at National Grid Reference SH 89529 09326. The abstraction point is shown in photograph 1 below.



Photograph 1: Abstraction point

No issues were identified.

WR-A4 Purpose of Abstraction

Water is abstracted for the production of power.

No issues were identified.

WR-C1 Minimum hands-off flow/level requirements

Condition 9.5(i) of the licence states that *"no abstraction of water shall take place unless the rate of flow in the unnamed tributary to the Afon Tafolog immediately downstream of the authorised point of abstraction ... is equal to or greater than 4 litres per second and the abstraction shall not cause the flow immediately downstream of said abstraction point to fall below that rate"*.

On the day of the inspection, stones within the Hands off Flow (HoF) notch restricted flows downstream, causing a small amount of water to be directed over the Coanda screen, allowing abstraction to take place. The stones are shown in photograph 2 below.



Photograph 2: Stones blocking HoF notch

The Licence Holder cleared the stones whilst the NRW officers were on site. This stopped further abstraction over the Coanda screen. Photograph 3 below shows the HoF notch after the stones had been cleared.



Photograph 3: Stones cleared from HoF notch

The blockage of the HoF notch on the 03 August 2026 represents a breach of condition 9.5(i). The breach has been scored as a category 3 non-compliance above. A category 3 non-compliance represents a non-compliance that has the potential to have a minor or minimal impact or effect on the environment, people and or property. Whilst the Licence Holder has already rectified the breach, NRW ask that they continue to clear stones from the HoF notch and residual flow notch as and when necessary to avoid a recurrence of this breach.

WR-F1 Point of discharge

All abstracted water is returned to the unnamed tributary to the Afon Tafolog at National Grid Reference SH 89360 09405. The discharge outlet pipe is shown in photograph 4 below.



Photograph 4: Discharge outlet pipe

No issues were identified.

WR-F2 Infrastructure

Condition 9.7(i) of the licence states that *"no abstraction shall take place unless the Licence Holder has installed a Vertical flat bar screen with spacing no greater than 20 millimetres to the discharge outlet pipe to prevent the entrapment, entrainment or impingement of fish"*. As can be seen in photograph 4 above, a screen has been installed on the discharge outlet pipe, however measurements taken during the inspection indicated that the spacings were 30mm rather than 20mm. This represents a breach of condition 9.7(i) and has been scored as a category 3 non-compliance above. To rectify the non-compliance, the Licence Holder is asked to install a vertical flat bar screen with spacing no greater than 20mm to the discharge outlet pipe and to provide NRW with photographic evidence that this has been completed by the **19 October 2026**.

WR-A8 Other specified on licence

Condition 9.3 of the licence states that *"the Licence Holder shall, as far as is reasonably practicable, ensure that no water flows through the turbine if the Licence Holder is unable to generate power"*.

The Licence Holder confirmed that no power was being generated at the time of the inspection, however as can be seen in photograph 4 above, a small trickle of water was observed discharging at the discharge outlet pipe. This represents a breach of condition 9.3

and has been scored as a category 3 non-compliance above. To rectify the non-compliance, the Licence Holder is asked to ensure that no water flows through the turbine if power is unable to be generated. A deadline of the **28 September 2026** has been set for this.

In this document 'Natural Resources Wales' means the Natural Resources Body for Wales established by Article 3 of the Natural Resources Body for Wales (Establishment) order 2012.

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.