

Compliance Assessment Report CAR_NRW0037444

Permit being assessed: BH0073801

For: VERWIG STW VERWIG NR CARDIGAN DYFED, held by DWR CYMRU CYFYNGEDIG

At: VERWIG STW, VERWIG, NR CARDIGAN, DYFED, .

Type of assessment carried out: Audit, Reason: Routine.

On 21/08/2020, between 10:00 and 11:00.

Parts of permit assessed: See criteria below

NRW Lead Officer: Jeremy Goddard, accompanied by: Emma Sharp.

Report sent to: CARS inbox, CARS inbox, on 02/02/2021.

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

Part of permitted activity assessed (criteria)	Assessment result	Permit condition
WQ-A1 - Management - General management	Assessed (A)	
WQ-B1 - Operations - Permitted activities	Assessed (A)	
WQ-B2 - Operations - The site	Assessed (A)	
WQ-B3 - Operations - Operating techniques	Assessed (A)	
WQ-C1 - Emissions and monitoring - Emissions to water	Assessed (A)	
WQ-D1 - Information - Records	Assessed (A)	
WQ-D2 - Information - Reporting	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

This was a pre-planned audit carried out by Natural Resources Wales officers Jeremy Goddard and Emma

Sharp who were accompanied by Dwr Cymru operatives Michael Jones, Sarah Mowlem and Paul Mathias.

General Observations:

The audit commenced at 10:00am on 21 August 2020. The weather at the time of the visit was constant rain.

Officers were taken through the process from the inlet point to the final effluent sampling point with Michael Jones and Paul Mathias explaining how the works is operated. The Works is an activated sludge system and whilst not a permit compliance issue the infrastructure is old and in some places in need of repair. The paddle wheel in the activated sludge ditch is no longer working and has been replaced by a raft aerator which was tethered in place with rope, see Photo 1. Mr. Jones stated that there were no plans to replace the raft aerator as it was working well but they will look to replace the rope with more permanent fixings.



Photo 1: Raft aerator within the activated sludge ditch

There was a large crack on the outer wall of the inlet well structure, see Photo 2. There was no obvious leakage and Mr. Jones stated that this crack did not go all the way through to the inner circular chamber.



Photo 2: Cracked outer wall on the inlet chamber. Cracks start at top of steps and go down the side of the chamber to at least ground level.

The works is routinely visited by an operator twice weekly as a minimum.

The WOF007 Works Diary was randomly checked for entries. There were no omissions and all relevant results appeared to be within compliance.

The final effluent sample point and discharge point into the receiving watercourse were visually checked. At the time of the visit the discharged treated sewage was clear and there was no obvious signs of pollution – no odour or sewage fungus growth around the discharge point.

Flows:

There was no MCERT flow meter on site as the flow coming into the works is below the volume required to have an MCERT meter.

OSM Sample Results:

Following the visit, a request was made to Dwr Cymru for monitoring data associated with Ferwig STW covering the period 21/08/2019 to 21/08/2020.

The permit BH0073801 which is dated 8th November 1995 has the following maximum determinant values:

Biochemical Oxygen Demand 18 mg/l

Suspended Solids 30 mg/l

Ammoniacal Nitrogen (as N) 9 mg/l

All reported sampling results from 5 August 2019 to 14 August 2020 were within permit compliance.

Please refer to Compliance Assessment Report (CAR): CAR_NRW0037445 which covers storm discharge Environmental Permit BH0073802.

ENDS

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 only relating to the activity assessment
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

If your assessment result in Section 1 is suspended, what does this mean?

In line with our guidance, we may suspend non-compliance for up to six months to allow time for remedial action to be taken. These will be re-instated if the action is not completed.

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 Installation of monitoring boreholes

WQ D: Information

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

Enforcement response

Any permit condition non-compliance 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 20 working days to let you know if we agree to your request.

What do I do if I disagree with the report or have a complaint?

If you disagree with this compliance assessment report, you should contact the lead officer without delay to discuss your concerns.

If you are unable to resolve the issue with the lead officer or their line manager you should contact our Customer Contact team on 0300 065 3000 (Monday to Friday 08:00 – 18:00), or email enquiries@naturalresourceswales.gov.uk for details of how to raise your dispute further through our Complaints and Commendations procedure.

If you are dissatisfied with our response, you can contact the Public Services Ombudsman for Wales by phone on 0300 7900203 or by email at 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.