

## Compliance Assessment Report CAR\_NRW0039060

**Permit being assessed:** AW1004001

For: Llanyre Wastewater Treatment Works, held by DWR CYMRU CYFYNGEDIG  
At: Off the A4081, Unnamed Road, Llandrindod Wells, Powys, LD1 6DU.

**Type of assessment carried out:** Site Inspection, Reason: Routine.

On 03/12/2021, between 11:44 and 12:20.

Parts of permit assessed: See Criteria Below

**NRW Lead Officer:** Robert Harding, accompanied by: Ffion Roberts.

**Report sent to:** CARS Mailbox, CARS Mailbox, on 10/12/2021.

### 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-C1 - 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

This was a pre-planned OSM site inspection carried out by Natural Resources Wales Officers Robert Harding and Ffion Roberts We were shown around the site by the following DCWW representatives

Lowri Davies- Operations Supervisor  
James Jones – ICA Technician  
Chris Edwards- Catchment Management  
Owen Bowers– Process Technician

The weather during the visit was overcast with intermittent showers. We were shown through the works from inlet through to the outfall.

#### General Observations

The STW is a single filter bed works with a descriptive permit. It is unmanned and has telemetry in place for monitoring. There is a storm discharge present under Permit AW1004002, which is permitted to discharge when the incoming flow is over 2.8l/s.

#### Inlet and Storm

The incoming flow comes into the works via gravity, and the works is gravity powered. At the inlet there are two macerators, only one of which is running at any time. The macerator in use was clearly operating as expected. No rag or solids were observed in the inlet channel during the visit. A new storm weir has recently been installed which is higher than the 2.8l/second level, its current level is approximately 4 l/s meaning that ore flow is going to full treatment than required. This will be adjusted to permitted limits soon.





The flows were well below the storm weir setting in place and there were no flows entering the storm channel. The storm channel appeared clear of debris or blockages. The storm channel does not have additional screening as all flows pass through the screening and macerator before the storm weir. There is a single storm tank, which was contained water at the time of inspection. The storm sewerage will be returned to the head of the works manually when the incoming flow is low enough. There was no indication that any flow was leaving the works via the storm outlet.

#### Primary Settlement

The primary settlement tank at the works is an undercover square shaped tank, with a lower outlet height for retaining solids, similar in design to a septic tank. Overall, the settlement system appeared to be operating effectively. There were no signs of significant solids in the outfall channel from the underground tank.



The outfall from the primary settlement tank flows down to the filter bed via three open brick chambers, on asking the purpose of these chambers, DCWW staff were not entirely sure as it was older infrastructure. By design they will aid with reducing solids by slowing the flow down. The final chamber had a COPASAC, which had some solid materials built up on it, however the flow was passing through effectively. There were no signs of significant solids passing through.



#### Filter Bed

The works contains a single filter bed of stone media. On the rotating mechanism in the centre of the filter bed there appeared to be some white growth/ material present, this was not hindering the movement of the mechanism. The rotation arm was moving free and unhindered. The rotating arm appeared to be distributing effectively. There were no signs of ponding or dry patches across the filter bed and no excessive vegetation growth. The brickwork around the filter bed was in poor condition, in several areas appeared cracked and leaking. Where there was leaked it appeared to leak into the filter bed outlet and not to ground.

See advisories.

There was a small amount of sewage fungus present around the outfalls from the filter bed. However there was no signs further down the treatment process.





#### Humus Tank

The humus tank appeared to be operating effectively and there were no signs of solids in the outfall channels. There was a layer of duckweed present on the tank, however this was largely contained within the scum boards of the tank. The effluent from the tank appeared clear and free flowing with no signs of concerns.



#### Outfall and Sampling point

The outfall inspection chamber appeared clear and effluent was flowing freely. There were no signs of solids or contaminants within the effluent. The works has a descriptive permit, so no sampling was required at the time.

#### Advisories

The filter bed clearly requires some maintenance. There are several areas where there are signs of leakage through missing cement/grout. If left without repair there is a risk that the tank could fail, causing a pollution to ground. As the leakage seen was contained within the process channel, I have on this occasion not classified this as a breach of permit, however if the situation deteriorates it will become classifiable.



In terms of works operation, as the works has a descriptive permit, it appears to be operating as required.

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](mailto: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](mailto: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.