

## Compliance Assessment Report CAR\_NRW0038815

**Permit being assessed:** BB3006701

For: PENY BONT SEWAGE TREATMENT WORKS, held by DWR CYMRU CYFYNGEDIG  
At: PENY BONT SEWAGE TREATMENT WORKS, OGMORE BY SEA, BRIDGEND CBC, WALES, .

**Type of assessment carried out:** Audit, Reason: Incident Response (Incident number: 2106286).

On 29/07/2021, between 14:00 and 16:35.

Parts of permit assessed: All

**NRW Lead Officer:** Paul Latham, accompanied by: Natalie Wrangham, Hannah Jenkins.

**Report sent to:** CARS@dwrcymru.com, CARS@dwrcymru.com, on 14/02/2022.

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

| Part of permitted activity assessed (criteria)        | Assessment result | Permit condition |
|-------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| WQ-C1 - Emissions and monitoring - Emissions to water | Action only (X)   |                  |
| WQ-C1 - Emissions and monitoring - Emissions to water | Action only (X)   |                  |
| WQ-D1 - Information - Records                         | Assessed (A)      |                  |

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

### 2. What action is required?

| Criteria | Action needed                                                                                                                                                                                          | Complete by |
|----------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|
| WQ-C1    | Carry out necessary maintenance and cleaning on the flume and place the flow meter in the centre of the channel.                                                                                       | 01/01/2022  |
| WQ-C1    | Explain the purpose and reason for using the hose in the final settlement tanks and what measures were in place to prevent suspended solids entering the discharge before the deadline outlined below. | 01/01/2022  |

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

### FINAL EFFLUENT AUDIT

Following a pollution incident reported to us on 23/07/2021 of untreated sewage seen leaving the final effluent outfall of Pen Y Bont WWTW after dark, a site visit was undertaken on 29/07/2021 by NRW Officers accompanied by DCWW Operations Supervisor Ruth Anthony. An audit was also carried out of data sent through from DCWW.

The weather at the time of our visit was dry and warm although there had been some light rain the previous evening. There were no visible signs of pollution during our visit and samples of the final effluent were taken on the day that confirmed that the discharge was within most limits set out in condition 14 of permit BB3006701.

The results were as follows:

| Condition                                               | Result                                      | Permitted threshold |
|---------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|---------------------|
| BOD (after 5 days at 20C with nitrification suppressed) | 3 mg/l                                      | 25 mg/l             |
| Suspended Solids (after drying at 105C)                 | 9.5 mg/l                                    | 35 mg/l             |
| Ammoniacal nitrogen (expressed as N)                    | not measured, but Ammonia (N) was <0.5 mg/l | 6 mg/l (SUMMER)     |

The audit carried out showed nothing to cause concern although some things were noticed 'For Action' during our site visit.

It was noticed that the flow meter was not placed in the centre of the channel and there was a build up of algae and debris on the walls of the flume channel that could potentially lead to inaccurate flow readings of effluent entering the UV plant.



It was also noticed that hoses were being used to disturb the solids scum in the centre of the final settlement tanks resulting in solids being distributed across the surface water of the tanks that could potentially increase the amount of suspended solids in the final effluent.



UV and inlet data were requested. Data was audited against Conditions 1b and 1d of the permit. UV Dosage was at 30mj/cm<sup>2</sup> or above for the duration of the requested data and no more than 10% of measurements fell below 15mj/cm<sup>2</sup> within the 24hrs audited. Condition 1c could not be audited as this requires a full 12 months of data.

As per condition 7, the flow values were below 1600l/s for the duration of the data selection.

**ACTIONS:**

- Carry out necessary maintenance and cleaning to ensure that flow readings are accurate and provide evidence of this to Natural Resources Wales before the deadline outlined below.
- Explain the purpose and reason for using the hose in the final settlement tanks and what measures were in place to prevent suspended solids entering the discharge before the deadline outlined below.

All actions to be completed before 01/01/2022 and sent to NRW at [cwmtaf&bridgend.et@cyfoethnaturiolcymru.gov.uk](mailto:cwmtaf&bridgend.et@cyfoethnaturiolcymru.gov.uk)

**We wish to thanks Ruth Anthony for her time on the day of our visit and cooperation during this investigation.**

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.