

Compliance monitoring assessment 2022-2023

Consent No:	WGN980083	Date: 25/09/23	Monitoring officer: Amanda O'Brien
Activity:	<p>[496] To occupy and use the coastal marine area with a concrete deflection wall and outfall structures.</p> <p>[1536] To discharge contaminants to air from the Porirua City Council's Wastewater Treatment Plant.</p> <p>[33805] To discharge treated effluent from the Porirua City Council's Wastewater Treatment Plant.</p>		

Your compliance rating

This report covers the period 1 July 2022 to 30 June 2023. This is the last full compliance report under WGN980083.

Consent WGN980083 [1536] and [33805] expiry date was 06 July 2020, with new consents for both air and coastal discharges being applied for. Consents WGN200029 [36727] and [36816] were granted and became effective on 14 July 2023.


WGN980083 [496] is still in effect and does not expire until 28 June 2034. Conditions under WGN980083 [496] will be assessed alongside WGN200029 [36727] and [36816] in future reports.

You have received the rating significantly non-compliant for WGN980083 [33805] because non consented discharges occurred, sampling was not undertaken in accordance with condition 8 resulting in sample cross contamination, September monthly sampling round was not undertaken (condition 15), and peak flow and average daily flows were over the consented limits.

The consents have been rated as follows:

[1536] [496]		FULL COMPLIANCE All conditions met – well done! No further action required
[33805]		SIGNIFICANT NON-COMPLIANCE Many condition(s) not met. Immediate action required (see comments below)

Overall compliance summary for Porirua Wastewater Treatment Plant:

<p>FAIR</p> 	<p>Overall fair management of site and consents. The consent holder struggled to meet aspects of their consent requirements. There were more than occasional breaches of consent conditions that manage environmental effects and/or issues with meeting administrative related consent conditions.</p>
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Comments

WGN980083 [496] to occupy and use the coastal marine area with a concrete deflection wall and outfall structures. Consent WGN980083 [496] is rated as *fully compliant*.

Condition 6 relates to maintenance of the outfall and deflection wall. The 2019-2020 compliance report required the consent holder to submit an assessment of the effects of the damage to the outfall structure and identify whether remediation of the structure is required. This assessment was submitted and met the requirements of the Manager, Environmental Regulation. Dispersion modelling showed no remediation works are required. This condition is *compliant*.

WGN980083 [33805] to discharge treated effluent from the Porirua City Council's Wastewater Treatment Plant. Consent WGN980083 [33805] is rated as *significantly non-compliant*.

Condition 8 requires all methods and procedures for monitoring to be to the satisfaction of the Regional Council. A formal warning notice was given to Wellington Water, Porirua City Council and Veolia Water New Zealand Limited due to a breach of Condition 8 for high daily effluent faecal coliform results between 27 February 2023 and 9 March 2023 due to sample cross contamination from use of a non-sterilised bucket at the sample point. This condition is non-compliant.

Condition 11 requires the consent holder to take samples of treated wastewater and compare the results with the consented limits. Table 1 below outlines the sampling requirements and an assessment of the results from the 2022-2023 year. This condition is compliant.

Table 1: Assessment of condition 11 requirements

Condition requirements	2022-2023 assessment
Daily 24 hour flow proportioned composite – Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD5) and suspended solids	There were no exceedances of the consent requirements for BOD ₅ or suspended solids.
At least 20 grab samples per month – faecal coliform bacteria	This condition is compliant. 27 February – 9 March showed spikes in faecal coliforms due to cross contamination.
Quarterly 24 hour flow proportioned composite – specified metals and other compounds	All specified metals and compounds showed no exceedances.

Condition 12 requires the consent holder to continuously monitor and record the treatment plant effluent flow.

As agreed between GWRC and the consent holder, the consent holder is required to continuously monitor and record the treatment plant influent flow rather than effluent flow. The inflow and outflow

effluent are equivalent and the flow meters on the inlet are more accurate than on the outfall. The influent data was provided in the annual report; therefore, this condition is *compliant*.

The peak flow was 95,608 m³ which is over the consented peak flow limit of 92,800 m³. This peak exceedance occurred on three occasions. Average daily flow was 29,617 m³. There were 220 days where flow was greater than the consented daily average flow of 24,000 m³. In relation to Condition 1, and the cover page of the consent, these exceedances are non-compliant. No further enforcement action was taken.

Condition 14 requires the consent holder to monitor the enterococci and faecal coliform contents of the receiving waters at six shoreline locations between Titahi Bay Beach and Te Korohiwa Rocks. Additionally, the consent holder shall establish a sample control site and measure background enterococci and faecal coliform contents of the coastal waters.

The original control site posed a health and safety issue for the technician when collecting the sample. A meeting was held on 29 August 2019 regarding the reallocation of the control site sampling location and GWRC agreed to the new sample location at Whitireia Park. This condition is *compliant*.

Condition 15 requires the water at all sampling locations to be monitored monthly. In the event of a discharge of partly treated or untreated wastewater due to either plant malfunction, plant overflow, or plant bypass, the waters shall be further monitored at or about 24 hours, 72 hours, and 144 hours after that discharge commenced.

Shoreline monitoring is not initiated for bypass discharge events where the volume was less than 1,000 m³, as agreed with GWRC.

There were 6 consented bypass discharge events and 7 unconsented discharge events that occurred throughout the 2022-2023 compliance period. This condition is *non-compliant* for the following sampling:

- No monthly monitoring was undertaken in September 2022.
- A discharge occurred on 31 July 2022 and sampling was undertaken (within 24 hours) and again on 02 August 2022 (within 72 hours). A third sample at 144 hours, did not occur on the expected Friday 05 August. The next event occurred Monday 8 August and sampling started again for this event. This is a technical non-compliance.

Action by 30 September 2023:

- 1. Provide an explanation of why no sample was undertaken in September 2022**

Condition 17 requires the consent holder to produce quarterly monitoring reports and forward them to GWRC.

All four quarterly reports were submitted to the satisfaction of the Manager, GWRC and are *compliant* with this condition.

Condition 18 requires the consent holder to undertake notification and reporting when there has been a breach of effluent quality (condition 11) and / or effects caused by the discharge (condition 13).

There was no breach of Condition 11 or condition 13 during this reporting period, despite unconsented discharges from the treatment plant. A detailed report and timely notification were received by GWRC regarding the cross-contamination during sampling incident. This condition is *compliant*.

Condition 21 requires the consent holder to undertake notification and reporting in the event of a plant malfunction or discharge of untreated or partially treated effluent.

During the 2022 – 2023 compliance period, there were 13 bypass discharges during this reporting period. This is more than the previous reporting period where there were 10 bypass discharge events. Notifications were submitted to the regional council and Regional Public Health for all the discharge incidents. This condition is *compliant*.

In response to discharges of partly treated wastewater, GWRC issued Veolia Water New Zealand, Porirua City Council and Wellington Water limited with abatement notices on 9 August 2021 requiring them to carry out actions to prevent further bypasses of the UV treatment stage.

- Corrective actions of most items listed in the abatement notice were reported as completed by the 30 September 2021.
- Wellington Water requested to change the date for the requirement that the UV upgrade project be completed to 28 February 2022, which was granted, and the abatement notice was amended. A further extension to 30 April 2022 was requested. This request was denied.
- By 18 May 2022 an inspection was carried out by a GWRC officer that identified the old UV system as still operating, with the new system installed but not operating.
- By not completing the UV upgrade by the 28 February 2022, Veolia Water New Zealand and Wellington Water limited breached their abatement notice. Infringement notices and formal warnings were issued on 26 August 2022 (within this reporting period).
- During this reporting period, seven unconsented discharges occurred due to failures in the UV system not operating as it should. A series of please explain letters were issued which Wellington Water responded to. These resulted in a programme of works being put in place to identify and eliminate issues.
- A formal warning was issued for undisinfected discharges on 15 March 2023, 21 March 2023, 28 March 2023, 19 April 2023 and 04 May 2023.
- A progress update on 19 June 2023 from Joemar Cacnio (of Wellington Water) stated:

“The supplier had done repair works on the DURON UV outlet penstock last week. As per their assessment after the work has been completed, the DURON UV system is operating as expected and can be returned to normal service”.

GWRC considers the DURON UV to be operational, and all aspects of the notice completed. The 'to do' abatement notice will stay in place for at least 12 months and Wellington Water can request an assessment that the abatement be marked as completed/removed after 12 July 2024.

- Between 4 May 2023 and 11 July 2023, no undisinfected discharges have occurred while several rainfall events that match those observed in these discharges that have occurred. E.g. 24.6 mm over 9 July and a peak rate of 8 mm/hr observed on 10 June 2023 providing some confidence issues with the DURON UV system have been reduced and potentially resolved.

Condition 23 requires the consent holder to take all reasonable steps to investigate and implement ways and means of minimising infiltration and stormwater ingress into the sewerage system and provide the Manager, GWRC with an annual progress report.

The inflow and infiltration report was received as part of the annual report. During this compliance period Wellington Water continue to make progress on minimising infiltration and stormwater ingress. Of note is the smoke testing, dye testing and CCTV inspections for both wastewater and stormwater assets for South Beach (Onepoto Stage 2), Semple Street industrial area and Titahi Bay along with flow monitoring and 14 rain gauge monitoring stations to understand the extent of inflow and infiltration and works undertaken in Tawa and Titahi Bay in 2022/23 with proposed 2023/24 works in Plimmerton, Mana, central Porirua and Duck Creek. This condition is considered *compliant*.

Condition 24 requires the consent holder to establish a community liaison group. The consent holder has held a meeting on 13 February 2023. This condition is *compliant*.

WGN980083 [1536] to discharge contaminants to air from the Porirua City Council Wastewater Treatment Plant.

Condition 6 requires the consent holder to ensure no discharges to air are noxious, dangerous, offensive or objectionable beyond the treatment plant boundary.

There were no discharges beyond the property boundary that were assessed as being noxious, dangerous, offensive or objectionable. This condition is *compliant*.

Condition 8 requires the permit holder to carry out monitoring of air-borne pathogens to demonstrate compliance with condition 6 or condition 7 if requested by the Manager, Consents Management. This information was not requested in the compliance period; therefore, this condition is *compliant*.

Condition 9 requires the consent holder to keep a record of any complaints received. During the 2022-2023 compliance period, one complaint was received. Follow up by WWL was noted to include notification of relevant teams within Veolia and Wellington Water, however, the nature of this complaint meant no follow up assessment on site by a warranted officer occurred as the last odour date identified was over a week prior to the notification being received. This condition is *compliant*.

Condition 10 requires the consent holder to notify GWRC if an incident occurs that may cause or has caused adverse effects on the environment at or beyond the site boundary.

No incidents occurred throughout the 2022-2023 compliance period that may have caused adverse effects on the environment at or beyond the site boundary, therefore, this condition is *compliant*.

Consent WGN980083 [1536] is rated as *fully compliant*.

GWRC compliance rating system

	<p>FULL COMPLIANCE – All conditions met – well done! No further action required</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All conditions assessed are met including supplying information and/or records
	<p>LOW RISK NON-COMPLIANCE – Most conditions met. Some action may be required</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minor breach of effects based conditions or works outside scope of consent with low risk of adverse environmental effects Breach of conditions which is technical in nature (eg, failure to submit monitoring report or records)
	<p>MODERATE NON-COMPLIANCE – Some condition(s) not met. Action required</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Repeated failure to supply monitoring report or records. Breach of conditions where there are some environmental consequences and/or moderate risk of adverse environmental effects
	<p>SIGNIFICANT NON-COMPLIANCE – Many condition(s) not met. Immediate action required</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Breach of conditions where there are significant environmental consequences and/or high risk of adverse environmental effects

<p>VERY GOOD</p> <p>★★★★★</p>	<p>Overall excellent management of site and consents. The consent holder is proactive in meeting their consent requirements. If issues have arisen concerning consent conditions, the consent holder responds with promptness and effectiveness.</p>
<p>GOOD</p> <p>★★★★☆</p>	<p>Overall good management of site and consents. The consent holder is generally on top of meeting their consent requirements. Whilst there are some minor breaches of consent conditions, these have no ongoing environmental effects.</p>
<p>FAIR</p> <p>★★★☆☆</p>	<p>Overall the management of site and consents is considered to be fair. There are occasional breaches of consent conditions and/or lapses in providing information to GWRC.</p>
<p>POOR</p> <p>★★☆☆☆</p>	<p>Overall the management of site and consents is considered to be poor. There are consistent and ongoing breaches of consent conditions. The consent holder is not getting on top of their consent requirements.</p>

Consent monitoring charges

Each consent receives a consent monitoring charge from GWRC.

This charge is made up of three parts:

- A *customer service charge* that covers the administrative cost of your consent(s);
- A *compliance monitoring charge* that covers all actual and reasonable time associated with assessing compliance with your consent(s) including the time spent visiting and assessing your site, information and reports you submit, file notes, travel time and reporting to you on compliance with your consent(s); and
- A *State of the Environment (SoE) charge* that covers a proportion of the cost of GWRC monitoring the environment that relates to your activity.

For further information on consent monitoring charges, please see our *Resource Management Charging Policy*.