

Site Visit Report

Under the *European Union (Drinking Water) Regulations 2023*, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is the supervisory authority in relation to Uisce Éireann and its role in the provision of public drinking water supplies. This audit was carried out to assess the performance of Uisce Éireann in providing clean and wholesome water to the public water supply named below.

The audit process is a sample of the performance of a water treatment plant and public water supply on a given date.

Water Supply Zone	
Name of Installation	Ennis PWS
Organisation	Uisce Éireann
Scheme Code	0300PUB1009
County	Clare
Site Visit Reference No.	SV29880

Report Detail	
Issue Date	08/03/2024
Prepared By	Orla Harrington

Site Visit Detail			
Date Of Inspection	15/02/2024	Announced	Yes
Time In	10:30	Time Out	12:30
EPA Inspector(s)	Orla Harrington		
Additional Visitors			
Company Personnel	Uisce Éireann: Michael Byrne, Tommy Roche EPS (operating under DBO contact to Uisce Éireann): Declan McGuinness, Wojcvech Jurasz, Kieran Curran.		

> Summary of Key Findings

1. The audit found that the Ennis water treatment plant is a very well operated and managed plant. Trends and data viewed at the audit showed satisfactory drinking water being produced.

> Introduction

Ennis public water supply (PWS) provides treated water to a population of over 27,854 people. Water is abstracted from Drumcliff spring and treated with processes including pH correction, coagulation, flocculation, dissolved air flotation (DAF), microfiltration, and disinfection by chlorination. There is sludge treatment on-site, consisting of a picket fence thickener (PFT) and dewatering units. The supernatant from the PFT is recirculated to the head of the works. The plant produces approximately 10,976 m³/day. The Ennis water treatment plant (WTP) is operated on behalf of Uisce Éireann by EPS under a Design Build Operate (DBO) contract. The plant operates 24 hours/day within its design capacity of 750m³/hr.

The audit was carried out as part of the EPA's routine assessment of large scale public water supplies throughout the country and was not linked to any failure at Ennis WTP in the production of drinking water.

> Supply Zones Areas Inspected

The audit inspected all aspects of the treatment process at Ennis Water Treatment Plant.



1. Disinfection

	Answer
1.1 Is there a suitable monitoring frequency for residual chlorine in the network with records available?	No
Comment	
1. Chlorine residual is checked in the network by Clare County Council, however there were no results available to view at the audit. Uisce Éireann could not confirm the frequency of monitoring of residual chlorine levels in the network and the DBO contractor has no visibility of network chlorine results or trends at these locations as the network is managed by Clare County Council.	

Recommendations

Subject	Ennis PWS - Audit Report.	Due Date	08/04/2024
Action Text	<p>Uisce Éireann is responsible for ensuring a clean and wholesome supply of drinking water and should implement the following recommendation(s) without delay.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Ensure that there is a protocol in place so that the results of network chlorine monitoring are made available to the water treatment plant operator in a timely manner so that any chlorination issues in the network are escalated and managed appropriately.2. Submit results for network chlorine monitoring for February 2024. <p>Actions required by Uisce Éireann</p> <p>During the audit, Uisce Éireann representatives were advised of the audit findings and that action must be taken by Uisce Éireann to address the issues raised.</p> <p>Uisce Éireann should submit a report to the EPA on or before 8/04/2024 detailing the actions taken and planned, with timescales, to close out the above recommendations.</p> <p>The EPA advises that the findings and recommendations from this audit report should, where relevant, be addressed at other public water supplies.</p>		