

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	Caheragh
Organisation	Uisce Éireann
Scheme Code	0500PUB4607
County	Cork
Site Visit Reference No.	SV31968

Report Detail	
Issue Date	18/06/2025
Prepared By	Paul Buckley

Site Visit Detail			
Date Of Inspection	21/05/2025	Announced	Yes
Time In	14:25	Time Out	15:30
EPA Inspector(s)	Paul Buckley		
Additional Visitors			
Company Personnel	Uisce Éireann - Brian Harrington, Sharon O'Dwyer, Claire Hurley. Cork County Council (working in partnership with Uisce Éireann) - Michael Russell, Michael Russell.		

> Summary of Key Findings

1. The water treatment plant is well operated and managed on a day to day basis.
2. The protozoal log treatment requirement for the source of the Caheragh Public Water Supply has not been determined. The source and sanitary survey has not been completed.

> Introduction

The Caheragh Public Water Supply (PWS) supplies an average of 38 m³/day, serving a population of 177 people.

The supply is sourced from a borehole located within the plant compound. Treatment consists of pH correction, ultraviolet (UV) disinfection and chlorination.

The audit was undertaken to assess Uisce Éireann's performance in producing clean and wholesome water with a focus on the protozoal barriers in place at the water treatment plant.

> Supply Zones Areas Inspected

The borehole, pH correction system, ultraviolet disinfection system, and the chlorination system were inspected.



		Answer
1.1	Has UÉ identified the protozoal compliance log treatment requirement for the water treatment plant?	No
	Comment	
	The protozoal compliance log treatment requirement has not been determined. The source and sanitary survey has not been completed.	
		Answer
1.2	Did treatment process trends demonstrate that data was being captured and recorded at all times?	No
	Comment	
	The trends for ultraviolet disinfection system indicated that there was no data captured for the ultraviolet (UV) dose up to 15/05/2025. Uisce Éireann were not able to determine how long the monitor had not been trending.	
	Following the audit, it was confirmed that the issue had been ongoing for a period of months, and that works completed at the plant in relation to the SCADA system removed access to historical data for the plant. The UV dose monitor is linked to alarms and inhibits at the plant and is now trending on the SCADA system.	
		Answer
1.3	Are there suitable plant controls to protect the protozoal barrier(s) and prevent inadequately treated water from entering the distribution network?	No
	Comment	
	There is no shutdown associated with high raw water turbidity. There is an alarm to alert operators to rising turbidity.	

Recommendations

Subject	EPA Audit Recommendations Caheragh PWS 21052025	Due Date	18/07/2025
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. i) Confirm the protozoal log treatment requirement for the Caheragh supply and ii) confirm how any log deficit, if identified, will be addressed.2. Install a shutdown associated with high turbidity in the raw water.3. Ensure all monitors are trending on the SCADA system, with oversight of all alarms and inhibits. <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 18/07/2025 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>		