

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	an Baile Mór PWS 012D
Organisation	Uisce Éireann
Scheme Code	1300PUB1032
County	Kerry
Site Visit Reference No.	SV33211

Report Detail	
Issue Date	14/11/2025
Prepared By	Regina Campbell

Site Visit Detail			
Date Of Inspection	22/10/2025	Announced	Yes
Time In	13:00	Time Out	14:10
EPA Inspector(s)	Regina Campbell		
Additional Visitors			
Company Personnel	Uisce Éireann: Flan Real Kerry County Council: Maurice Begley		

> Summary of Key Findings

1. An Baile Mór water treatment plant was operating satisfactorily on the day of the audit.
2. There are no inhibits based on high or low chlorine or on high turbidity in the final water in order to prevent inadequately treated water entering the supply.

> Introduction

An Baile Mór Public Water Supply (PWS) supplies an average of 567 m³/day and serves a population of 783. The average hourly rate produced is 27 m³/hr. The supply is sourced from 3 no springs with the combined spring water undergoing treatment comprising of sand filtration, pH correction and chlorination disinfection. There is also a borehole in operation that supplies approximately 10/ m³/hr to the supply.

The focus of the audit was on alarms, inhibits and oversight of the water treatment plant.

> Supply Zones Areas Inspected

The sand filtration and chlorination disinfection systems were inspected along with operational monitors.



1. Filtration

1.1

Are the filters designed and managed in accordance with EPA guidance?

Answer

No

Comment

1. There are 4. no slow sand filters in operation at the site.
2. The media depth is unknown and there is no media depth gauge.
3. Monitoring trends viewed showed that the turbidity in the filtered water is low and stable.



2. Management and Control

2.1

Has the protozoal compliance log treatment requirement been identified for the water treatment plant?

Answer

No

Comment

1. Uisce Éireann has assigned a default -3 log treatment requirement for the treatment plant. A sanitary survey has not yet been carried out on the supply to confirm the log treatment requirement.
2. Monthly *Cryptosporidium* monitoring is undertaken and there have been no detections to date.



3. Alarms, Inhibits & Oversight Audits 2025

3.1

Are suitable plant shutdowns/inhibits in place to prevent inadequately treated water entering the distribution network?

Answer

No

Comment

1. There are no inhibits based on high or low chlorine to prevent the entry of inadequately treated water entering the distribution network. There are high and low chlorine alarms in operation.

2. There is no shutdown setpoint based on high turbidity in the final water. There is an alarm setpoint in place for high turbidity in the final water.

3.2

Are plant performance trends accessible by operational staff at the water treatment plant?

Answer

No

Comment

All trends are available to operational staff at the water treatment plant with the exception of the individual filter turbidity monitors which have not been connected to the HMI yet.

3.3

Are plant performance trends accessible remotely?

Answer

No

Comment

Supervisory staff have access to plant performance trends remotely. However operational staff do not have access to trends remotely.

3.4

Is there a documented procedure for responding to specific alarms?

Answer

No

Comment

There is no documented site specific procedure for responding to specific alarms.

Answer

3.5

Are there appropriate procedures covering verification of alarms and inhibits status following maintenance or other work on site?

No



4. Site Specific Issues

4.1

Was the pH correction system operating on the day of the audit?

Answer

No

Comment

1. The pH correction system was not operating on the day of the audit. Trends viewed showed that the system had ceased working the previous afternoon due to a pump fault. Uisce Éireann said that it will be repaired as soon as possible. The final water pH monitor was reading 5.74 at the audit which was below the lower pH parametric value of 6.5.

Recommendations

Subject	An Baile Mór Audit Recommendations	Due Date	14/12/2025
Action Text	<p>Uisce Éireann is responsible for ensuring a clean and wholesome supply of drinking water and should implement the following recommendations without delay.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. a) Complete the source sanitary survey and confirm the protozoal log treatment requirement for the plant; b) identify how the log treatment deficit will be addressed and c) continue to monitor for <i>Cryptosporidium</i> in accordance with Uisce Eireann's Rationale for Determining the Frequency of <i>Cryptosporidium</i> Monitoring in Public Water Supplies. 2. Install appropriate shutdowns based on a) high and low chlorine levels in the final water and b) high turbidity in the final water. 3. a) Confirm the depth of the media in each filter; b) resand filters if necessary to obtain a minimum operating depth of 600mm and c) install a filter media depth gauge. 4. Confirm that the pH correction system is operational and final treated water is in compliance with the pH parametric values. 5. Develop and implement: a) a documented site specific alarm response procedure for confirming treatment plant alarms have been responded to. The procedure should clearly set out the corrective actions to be taken by staff and b) a documented procedure covering verification of alarms/inhibits status following maintenance or other work completed at the treatment plant. Provide training to all staff on the new procedures. <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 14/12/2025 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>		