

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	Kilcormac PWS
Organisation	Uisce Éireann
Scheme Code	2500PUB1011
County	Offaly
Site Visit Reference No.	SV34897

Report Detail	
Issue Date	05/05/2026
Prepared By	Lisa Noone

Site Visit Detail			
Date Of Inspection	01/04/2026	Announced	Yes
Time In	13:00	Time Out	14:00
EPA Inspector(s)	Lisa Noone		
Additional Visitors			
Company Personnel	Uisce Éireann: Linda Doran, Roisín Byrne, John Daly, Brendan McEvoy, Kenneth Spillane Offaly County Council (working in partnership with Uisce Éireann): Clodagh Graham		

> Summary of Key Findings

1. Appropriate controls were not in place to prevent or track accidental or unauthorised changes to alarm and inhibit settings.
2. There was no documented site-specific alarm response procedure in place at the treatment plant.

Uisce Éireann should submit a report to the EPA on or before 05/06/2026 detailing the actions taken and planned, with timescales, to close out the four recommendations in this audit report.

> Introduction

The Kilcormac Public Water Supply (PWS) supplies an average of 465 m³/day of water, serving a population of approximately 1,274. Raw water is abstracted from a borehole located at the Water Treatment Plant (WTP), with treatment consisting of chlorination and treated water stored in an onsite reservoir.

The audit was undertaken to assess Uisce Éireann's performance in producing clean and wholesome water with a focus on operations at the WTP.

> Supply Zones Areas Inspected

All plant processes were inspected as part of the audit.



1.1

Is there a documented alarm response procedure?

Answer

No

Comment

1. There is no documented alarm response procedure in place detailing what response will be made to alarms and specific steps to be taken by operators and other responders.

Recommendation:

1. Develop a procedure and deliver appropriate training for responding to and escalating all alarms generated at the water treatment plant, documenting the corrective actions and setting out delegation of responsibilities

1.2

Are suitable controls in place to prevent accidental or unauthorised changes to alarm or inhibit settings?

Answer

No

Comment

1. Alarms and inhibits can be changed and tracked via the countywide SCADA. Alarms and inhibits can also be changed at the WTP with personnel-specific passwords however there is no way of tracking these changes on the system.

2. During the audit, it was identified that time delay set points in place for turbidity inhibits had been extended prior to the audit from 1NTU for 3 minutes and 2NTU for 2 minutes to 5 minute time delays for both. Uisce Éireann could not confirm why the time delays had been changed or by whom, stating that they may have been automatically reset following a power outage.

Recommendations:

2. Uisce Éireann should (i) put suitable controls in place to prevent accidental or unauthorised changes to alarm and inhibit settings, (ii) maintain internal records to confirm any changes to alarms and inhibits made at the WTP and, (iii) review current password and personnel access to the countywide SCADA and the WTP system.

3. Uisce Éireann should (i) investigate the change in time delay set points for turbidity, and (ii) ensure that checks are in place on alarms and inhibit settings following power outages.



2. Site Specific Issues

2.1

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

Answer

No

Comment

1. A source and sanitary survey has not yet been completed for Kilcormac PWS.

Recommendation:

4. Complete a Source and Sanitary Survey and confirm the assigned log treatment requirement for the supply.

Recommendations

Actions required by Uisce Éireann

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.

Uisce Éireann is responsible for ensuring a clean and wholesome supply of drinking water and should implement the recommendations raised in this report without delay.

Response to Audit Report

Uisce Éireann should submit a report to the EPA on or before the date specified in the Summary of Key Findings detailing the actions taken and planned, with timescales, to close out the recommendations in this audit report.

The EPA advises that the findings and recommendations from this report should, where relevant, be addressed at other public water supplies.

Publication of Reports

Audit reports are published to the EPA's website, www.epa.ie, typically 1 month after the audit report is issued to Uisce Éireann.