

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	Foxes Den PWSS
Organisation	Uisce Éireann
Scheme Code	2700PUB2701
County	Sligo
Site Visit Reference No.	SV28017

Report Detail	
Issue Date	21/08/2023
Prepared By	Lisa Noone

Site Visit Detail			
Date Of Inspection	27/07/2023	Announced	Yes
Time In	10:00	Time Out	12:06
EPA Inspector(s)	Lisa Noone Maria O'Connell		
Additional Visitors			
Company Personnel	Uisce Éireann: Fionnuala Bonner CAW (DBO Contractor): Chris Duggan, Clionadh Williams		

> Summary of Key Findings

1. The audit found that Foxes Den Water Treatment Plant (WTP) was operating and performing well in providing clean and wholesome water to the public supply.
2. Residual chlorine monitoring in the network is not carried out by Sligo County Council several times a week at different points of the network.

> Introduction

Foxes Den Public Water Supply (PWS) serves a population of approximately 20,894 people in County Sligo. The plant has an average daily output of 8.23ML/day, and full production capacity of 16.5ML/day. Raw water is abstracted via a lake source from Lough Gill.

The DBO plant, operated under contract by CAW has water treatment including 3 DAF systems, 6 RGFs, primary disinfection via chlorination, UV for *Cryptosporidium* inactivation, sludge treatment works and treated water storage at on site reservoir with approximately 15,000m³ or 30 hour equivalent treated water storage. The plant underwent two stages of upgrades in 2017 and 2021 including the decommissioning of Cairns Hill WTP in 2017 which is now used as a treated water reservoir.

The audit of Foxes Den WTP was carried out to assess the performance of Uisce Éireann in providing clean and wholesome drinking water, focusing mainly on alarms, inhibits and management oversight.

> Supply Zones Areas Inspected

All treatment processes on site were inspected as part of the audit. The offsite reservoir at Cairns Hill was not inspected during the audit.



1. Disinfection

		Answer
1.1	Is there a suitable monitoring frequency for residual chlorine in the network with records available?	No
Comment		
<p>1. Network chlorine residual monitoring records were requested as part of the audit to be provided by Sligo County Council.</p> <p>2. Following the audit, Uisce Éireann notified the EPA that residual chlorine monitoring is not carried out by Sligo County Council in the network bar monitoring at treated water reservoirs.</p>		



2. Alarms, Inhibits & Oversight Audits 2023

	Answer
2.1 Is there a documented site specific incident response and incident escalation process?	No

Recommendations

Subject	Foxes Den PWS Audit Recommendations	Due Date	21/09/2023
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. Ensure that residual chlorine monitoring is undertaken in the extremities of the network several times a week.2. Update the Uisce Éireann Incident Communications Response Guidance Form with site specific information including contacts for escalation and relevant trigger levels protecting critical processes at the water treatment plant. <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 21/09/2023 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>		