

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 | Fews |
| Organisation | Uisce Éireann |
| Scheme Code | 3100PUB1045 |
| County | Waterford |
| Site Visit Reference No. | SV34916 |

| Report Detail | |
|--------------------|----------------|
| Issue Date | 07/05/2026 |
| Prepared By | David O'Malley |

| Site Visit Detail | | | |
|----------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|-------|
| Date Of Inspection | 17/04/2026 | Announced | Yes |
| Time In | 14:00 | Time Out | 15:00 |
| EPA Inspector(s) | David O'Malley Sarah O'Connor | | |
| Additional Visitors | | | |
| Company Personnel | Uisce Éireann: Patrick Kirwan, James Power, Brendan Hyland, Melissa Devane and Siobhán Clifford. | | |

> Summary of Key Findings

1. The audit found that the Fews Water Treatment Plant was well managed on the day of the audit.
2. There is no documented site specific alarm response procedure in place at the treatment plant.
3. The Fews Public Water Supply is on the Uisce Éireann National pH file as it has persistent low pH (< 6.5). At present the remedial works required to correct the pH issue have not been determined by Uisce Éireann.

Uisce Éireann should submit a report to the EPA on or before 09/06/2026 detailing the actions taken and planned, with timescales, to close out the three recommendations in this audit report.

> Introduction

The Fews Regional Public Water Supply (PWS) supplies an average of 42 m³/day of water, serving a population of 220 (EDEN 2025).

The source for the supply is one onsite borehole. Treatment consists of UV disinfection and chlorination. This is not reflective of the treatment types listed on the EPA EDEN website.

The audit was undertaken to assess Uisce Éireann's performance in producing clean and wholesome water with a focus on the alarms and inhibits in place at the WTP and the procedures in place to ensure appropriate oversight of treatment processes.

> Supply Zones Areas Inspected

The UV disinfection system and the chlorination dosing system were inspected at the water treatment plant.



1. Alarms, Inhibits & Oversight Audits 2026

| | Answer |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1.1 | Is there a documented procedure for responding to specific alarms? No |
| Comment | |
| 1. There is no documented alarm response procedure for responding to specific alarms at the WTP. | |
| Recommendation: | |
| 1. Ensure that: (i) a formal site specific alarm response procedure is in place at the treatment plant and (ii) provide training to relevant staff (including relief and temporary staff) on the requirements of the alarm response procedure. | |



2. Site Specific Issues

| | Answer |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|
| 2.1 Are final water pH results compliant with parametric values? | No |
| Comment | |
| <p>1. The Fews PWS is on Uisce Éireann's National pH file due to persistent low pH (< 6.5).</p> <p>2. Uisce Éireann have not confirmed an action programme or timeframe to address the issue.</p> Recommendation: | |
| <p>2. Ensure remedial measures are put in place to restore compliance with the pH parametric value in the supply.</p> | |

| | Answer |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|
| 2.2 Are the treatment types on EDEN correct? | No |
| Comment | |
| <p>1. EDEN did not list UV disinfection as a treatment type.</p> Recommendation: | |
| <p>3. Update EDEN with the correct treatment types in place at the water treatment plant.</p> | |

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.