

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	Ballany
Organisation	Uisce Éireann
Scheme Code	3200PUB1004
County	Westmeath
Site Visit Reference No.	SV28133

Report Detail	
Issue Date	11/09/2023
Prepared By	Lisa Noone

Site Visit Detail			
Date Of Inspection	29/08/2023	Announced	Yes
Time In	10:30	Time Out	12:00
EPA Inspector(s)	Lisa Noone		
Additional Visitors			
Company Personnel	Uisce Éireann: Joseph Moran, Karina O'Grady, Barry Leonard Westmeath County Council (in partnership with Uisce Éireann): Des Higgins, Niall Gaffney, Mugove Makura		

> Summary of Key Findings

1. The audit found that Ballany Water Treatment Plant (WTP) was operating and performing well in providing clean and wholesome water to the public supply.
2. There was no documented site specific incident response and incident escalation flowchart at the WTP.

> Introduction

Ballany Public Water Supply (PWS) serves a population of approximately 7,705 people in County Westmeath. The plant has an average daily output of 4,700m³/day. Raw water is abstracted from Lough Lene and treatment on site includes a bar screen on the intake point, 3 cartridge filters, primary disinfection via a chlorine dosing system and duty/standby UV system for *Cryptosporidium* inactivation. Treated water is then pumped to Ballany Low Level Reservoir and Ballany High Level Reservoir.

The audit of Ballany WTP was carried out to assess the performance of Uisce Éireann in providing clean and wholesome drinking water, focusing mainly on the operation and management of protozoal barriers at the treatment plant.

> Supply Zones Areas Inspected

All treatment processes on site were inspected as part of the audit. Ballany High Level Reservoir and Ballany Low Level Reservoir were not inspected during the audit.



1. Protozoal Barriers Audits 2023

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

		Answer
1.2	Has UÉ identified the protozoal compliance log treatment requirement for the water treatment plant?	Yes
Comment		
<p>1. A source and sanitary survey has been completed for Ballany PWS and there is a log treatment requirement of 3.0 log for the WTP, which is achieved via the 2 USEPA UV units currently in place.</p> <p>2. An additional 2.0 log credits are achieved via 3 cartridge filters in place at the WTP, however a certificate of approval by a formally recognised standard to verify the log removal efficiency for <i>Cryptosporidium</i> was not provided at the time of the audit.</p>		

		Answer
1.3	Are service due/ instrument calibration for turbidity monitors within date?	No
Comment		
<p>1. Online filter turbidity monitors were due for calibration on 17/08/2023.</p>		

Recommendations

Subject	Ballany PWS Audit Recommendations	Due Date	11/10/2023
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 the Uisce Éireann Incident Communication Response Guidance Form is displayed at Ballany WTP with site specific information including contacts for escalation and relevant trigger levels protecting critical processes at the water treatment plant.2. Ensure all online monitors are calibrated and maintained in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.3. Provide a copy of the approval from a recognised body/verification of the effectiveness of the cartridge filters to achieve a removal efficiency of 2.0 log for <i>Cryptosporidium</i>. <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 11/10/2023 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>		