

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	Gorey Regional Creagh
Organisation	Uisce Éireann
Scheme Code	3300PUB1512
County	Wexford
Site Visit Reference No.	SV32061

Report Detail	
Issue Date	21/11/2025
Prepared By	Sean O'Leary

Site Visit Detail			
Date Of Inspection	23/10/2025	Announced	Yes
Time In	11:00	Time Out	12:40
EPA Inspector(s)	Sean O'Leary		
Additional Visitors			
Company Personnel	Uisce Éireann: Denis McGrath, Bríd Whelan and Martin Parayil Varghese Wexford County Council (working in partnership with Uisce Éireann): Barry Hammel		

> Summary of Key Findings

1. Uisce Éireann have not addressed a number of the recommendations from a previous EPA audit undertaken on the 17/12/2021.
2. The contact time verification chlorine monitor does not have critical automatic shutdowns for low or high chlorine levels at the treatment plant. Automatic shutdowns are required to prevent inadequately treated water entering supply.
3. There have been significant delays in the commissioning of the new Dissolved Air Flotation Filtration (DAFF) 2 unit and the new ultraviolet (UV) disinfection system.

> Introduction

The Gorey Regional Creagh Public Water Supply (PWS) supplies an average of 2,048 m³/day of water, serving a population of 8,543 (EDEN).

The source of the supply is the river Bann, with two abstractions points taken from Kilmichael abstraction and Pallis abstraction. Both of the water abstractions are mixed coming in to the treatment plant.

Treatment consists of Dissolved Air Flotation Filtration (DAFF), chlorination, pH correction with lime, and fluoridation. There are no reservoirs on the network.

The audit was carried out as part of the EPA's routine assessment of large scale public water supplies and to assess progress with the recommendations from a previous audit undertaken by the EPA on 17/12/2021.

> Supply Zones Areas Inspected

The pH correction system, Dissolved Air Flotation Filtration (DAFF) and chlorination dosing system were inspected at the water treatment plant.



1. Filtration

1.1

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

Answer

No

Comment

1. The current in use DAFF 1 unit is in need of a refurbishment due to a leak present within the tank wall.



2.1

Have the recommendations from the previous EPA audit been satisfactorily completed?

Answer

No

Comment

A number of recommendations from a previous EPA audit undertaken on 17/12/2021 have not been completed to date. The outstanding recommendations are as follows:

No 2.(i) Critical alarms and controls, automatic shut down of the plant, links to SCADA for critical control parameters;

Update: Alarm and inhibit setpoints which were requested to be submitted to the EPA prior to the audit were not made available. In addition inhibit setpoints were not available for inspection on the day of the audit. Uisce Éireann confirmed that the chlorine monitor used for contact time verification does not have associated automatic plant shutdown for high or low residual chlorine levels at the water treatment plant. This is due to the lack of an actuating valve installed on the outflow of the water treatment plant. Uisce Éireann confirmed there are currently no plans in place to install an automatic shutdown due to air locking issues which may arise from a shutdown.

No 2 (iii) Completion of the Disinfection Programme Phase 1 review and work items arising from the review.

Update: Uisce Éireann confirmed that UV units have been installed, however they are currently not active due to outstanding commissioning issues. Uisce Éireann stated they expect UV disinfection to be operational by Q2 2026.

No 2 (iv) Further capital maintenance to be carried out on the DAFF.

Update: Several DAFF 1 upgrades have been completed, however a full refurbishment of the DAFF 1 unit is required. A new DAFF 2 unit has been installed, however it is currently not active due to outstanding commissioning issues. Uisce Éireann confirmed the further DAFF 1 upgrades will take place when DAFF 2 is commissioned and operational. Uisce Éireann stated they expect DAFF 2 unit to be operational by Q2 2026.

Recommendations

Subject	Audit Recommendations	Due Date	21/12/2025
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. Ensure that information requested by the EPA prior to an audit or requested for review on the day of an audit is provided for and made accessible to inspectors promptly.2. (i) Complete the commissioning of the UV units, (ii) ensure the UV units are validated to the appropriate standard, and (iii) install suitable alarms and inhibits in the event that the UV units fail to operate within validated range.3. Install appropriate high and low plant shutdown on the residual chlorine monitor after contact time.4. Complete the commissioning of the new DAFF 2 (Dissolved Air Flotation Filtration) unit.5. Ensure the DAFF 1 refurbishment is progressed, and ensure the works completed are in line with the EPA Water Treatment Manual: Filtration. <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 21/12/2025 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>		