

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	Feakle PWS
Organisation	Uisce Éireann
Scheme Code	0300PUB1017
County	Clare
Site Visit Reference No.	SV29576

Report Detail	
Issue Date	23/10/2024
Prepared By	Orla Harrington

Site Visit Detail			
Date Of Inspection	03/10/2024	Announced	Yes
Time In	12:30	Time Out	13:10
EPA Inspector(s)	Orla Harrington		
Additional Visitors			
Company Personnel	Uisce Éireann: Tommy Roche, Sharon O'Dwyer, Liam Honan. Clare County Council (working in partnership with Uisce Éireann): Richard McArthur.		

> Summary of Key Findings

1. The audit found that the Feakle public water supply was operating satisfactorily on the day of the audit.
2. Uisce Éireann has yet to fully implement the findings of its Alarms and Inhibits Review.
3. There is no documented alarm response procedure to advise operational staff on how specific water quality alarms should be responded to and acted upon.

> Introduction

The Feakle public water supply serves 137 m³/day to a population of 302 from one borehole located in a kiosk near the water treatment plant. Treatment consists of chlorination. Treated water is then pumped 600m to a reservoir before distribution.

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 treatment plant and the procedures in place to ensure appropriate oversight of treatment processes.

> Supply Zones Areas Inspected

The treatment process was inspected during the audit and monitoring and control systems including alarm set-points were reviewed. The reservoir was not inspected as part of the audit.



1. Reservoirs and Distribution Networks

	Answer
1.1 Are reservoirs adequately inspected and maintained?	No
Comment	
1. Uisce Éireann were unable to confirm when the reservoir was last inspected.	



2. Alarms, Inhibits & Oversight Audits 2024

	Answer	
2.1	Did staff confirm they have received training on the site specific incident response and incident escalation process?	No
Comment		
1. Staff at the water treatment plant were unable to confirm whether training on the site specific incident response and incident escalation process had been received.		

	Answer	
2.2	Were online monitors operational?	No
Comment		
1. On the day of the audit, Uisce Éireann advised that the chlorine monitor (CL003) located at the outlet of the reservoir was not operational. Uisce Éireann were unable to confirm the length of time the monitor has been out of operation.		
2. The chlorine dosing monitor and monitor to verify contact time were operational at the audit.		

	Answer	
2.3	Was there a plan in place for repair of any monitor not in operation during the audit?	No
Comment		
1. Uisce Éireann advised that there is no plan in place to repair the chlorine monitor (CL003).		

	Answer	
2.4	Were all findings of the UÉ alarm and inhibit review implemented?	No
Comment		
1. Uisce Éireann advised that all findings of the alarm and inhibit review had not been implemented.		

	Answer	
2.5	Is there a documented alarm response procedure?	No

2.6

Are there appropriate procedures covering verification of alarms and inhibits status following maintenance or other work on site?

Answer

No

Recommendations

Subject	Feakle PWS - Audit Report	Due Date	20/11/2024
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. Provide training to all operational and relief staff on the incident response and escalation procedure.2. Ensure that (i) there are documented site specific alarm response procedures (ii) there are appropriate procedures covering verification of alarms and inhibits status following maintenance of other works at the plant and (iii) training is provided to all relevant staff on the procedures.3. Implement the findings of the Uisce Éireann Alarm and Inhibit Review in order to protect treatment processes and treated water quality.4. Confirm the chlorine monitor (CL003) is operational with appropriate alarm settings and inhibits.5. Ensure the reservoir is on the Uisce Éireann reservoir cleaning programme. <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 20/11/2024 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>		