

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	Galtee Regional
Organisation	Uisce Éireann
Scheme Code	2900PUB0130
County	Tipperary
Site Visit Reference No.	SV29608

Report Detail	
Issue Date	20/09/2024
Prepared By	David O'Malley

Site Visit Detail			
Date Of Inspection	30/08/2024	Announced	Yes
Time In	10:15	Time Out	12:15
EPA Inspector(s)	David O'Malley Sean O'Leary		
Additional Visitors			
Company Personnel	Uisce Éireann: Pat Duggan. Tipperary County Council (working in partnership with Uisce Éireann): Cyril Ryan and Michael Bret.		

> Summary of Key Findings

1. The audit found that the protozoal barriers were operating satisfactorily on the day of the audit with appropriate alarms and inhibits in place.
2. The Galtee Regional Public Water Supply has been on the EPA's Remedial Action List since Quarter 3 2019 under the RAL categories 'Excessive levels of aluminium in the treated water', 'Poor turbidity removal' and 'EPA Audit Observation - Treatment and Management Issues'. Currently RAL upgrade works are taking place at the water treatment plant with an expected completion date of March 2029.

> Introduction

The Rossadrehid Water Treatment Plant (WTP) is one of four WTPs supplying the Galtee Regional Public Water Supply (PWS). Rossadrehid WTP supplies an average of 9,061 m³/day of water, serving a population of 11,346 (EDEN 2024). The main source for the supply is the Muskry College stream and the College stream supplementing the WTP in the summer months. Treatment consists of coagulation, flocculation, clarification and rapid gravity filtration followed by chlorination, pH correction via lime and fluoridation dosing. Treated water is pumped to an on-site reservoir.

The Galtee Regional Public Water Supply has been on the EPA's Remedial Action List (RAL) since Quarter 3 2019 under the RAL categories 'Excessive levels of aluminium in the treated water', 'Poor turbidity removal' and 'EPA Audit Observation - Treatment and Management Issues'. Currently RAL upgrade works are taking place at the water treatment plant with an expected completion date of March 2029.

The audit was undertaken to assess Uisce Éireann's performance in producing clean and wholesome water with a focus on the protozoal barriers in place and to assess progress with the RAL programme of works.

> Supply Zones Areas Inspected

The coagulation, flocculation, six clarifiers, twelve rapid gravity filters and chlorination systems were inspected.



1. Supply on the Remedial Action List

	Answer
1.1	Is the Action Programme on track to meet the Remedial Action List completion date?
	Yes
Comment	
<p>1. Uisce Éireann provided an interim progress report on the RAL upgrade works for the WTP.</p> <p>The main work items completed at the water treatment plant are summarised as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• PLC upgrade throughout plant;• High turbidity shutdown on settled water holding tank; <p>The main work items to be completed at the water treatment plant are summarised as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Installation of run to waste to twelve rapid sand gravity filters;• Review of clarification and filter system;• Upgrades to pipework;• Alum tank replacement;• Upgrade to soda ash system. <p>Uisce Éireann stated at present the action programme is on track to meet the Remedial Action List completion date of March 2029.</p>	



2. Site Specific Issues

	Answer
2.1 Is there a documented alarm response procedure posted?	No
Comment	
1. The WTP has an alarm response procedure in place, but it is not posted.	

Recommendations

Subject	Audit Recommendations	Due Date	18/10/2024
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. Complete the plant upgrade works as per the Remedial Action Programme completion date of March 2029.2. Display an appropriate cascade system for responding to alarms generated at the plant which allows for verification that an alarm has been responded to and ensure documented procedures are put in place for responding to and escalating all alarms generated at the water treatment plant. The procedure should clearly document the corrective actions and set out delegation of responsibilities. Ensure that all staff are trained on the response procedures. <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 18/10/2024 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>		