

# 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	
<b>Name of Installation</b>	Kilcommon/Rearcross
<b>Organisation</b>	Uisce Éireann
<b>Scheme Code</b>	2800PUB1015
<b>County</b>	Tipperary
<b>Site Visit Reference No.</b>	SV29612

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

Site Visit Detail			
<b>Date Of Inspection</b>	30/08/2024	<b>Announced</b>	Yes
<b>Time In</b>	13:00	<b>Time Out</b>	14:00
<b>EPA Inspector(s)</b>	Sean O'Leary David O'Malley		
<b>Additional Visitors</b>			
<b>Company Personnel</b>	Uisce Eireann: Pat Duggan. Tipperary County Council (working in partnership with Uisce Éireann): Shane Boland and William Mackey.		

## > Summary of Key Findings

1. The audit found that Kilcommon/Rearcross Public Water Supply was operating satisfactorily on the day of the audit.
2. Uisce Éireann stated that turbidity spikes occur at plant start ups due to an issue with the final turbidity monitor. Uisce Éireann have hired a contractor to review turbidity monitor operation.
3. A source and sanitary survey should be completed by Uisce Éireann to confirm the 3 log protozoal treatment requirement in place at the water treatment plant.
4. There is no documented site specific alarm response or incident response and incident escalation procedure in place at the water treatment plant.

## > Introduction

The Kilcommon/Rearcross Public Water Supply (PWS) supplies an average of 754 m<sup>3</sup>/day of water, serving a population of 1,179 (EDEN 2024). The source for the supply is one borehole. Treatment consists of chlorination disinfection and treated water is stored in an off-site reservoir. 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 water treatment plant (WTP) and the procedures in place to ensure appropriate oversight of treatment processes.

## > Supply Zones Areas Inspected

The onsite borehole, chlorination dosing system and pumps at the WTP were inspected.



## 1. Management and Control

		Answer
1.1	Has the protozoal compliance log treatment requirement been identified for the water treatment plant?	No
<b>Comment</b>		
1. Uisce Éireann indicated that the supply has a 3 log treatment requirement subject to completion of a source and sanitary survey.		



## 2. Alarms, Inhibits & Oversight Audits 2024

		Answer
2.1	Is there a documented site specific incident response and incident escalation process?	No
<b>Comment</b>		
1. There was no documented site specific incident response and incident escalation process displayed at the water treatment plant.		

		Answer
2.2	Were online monitors operational?	Yes
<b>Comment</b>		
1. The newly installed final turbidity monitor has had issues with turbidity spiking at plant start ups. Uisce Éireann staff confirmed a contractor has been scheduled to address the issue.		

		Answer
2.3	Is there a documented alarm response procedure?	No
<b>Comment</b>		
1. There is no documented alarm response procedure for the plant.		

## Recommendations

Subject	Audit Recommendations	Due Date	18/10/2024
<b>Action Text</b>	<p><b>Uisce Éireann is responsible for ensuring a clean and wholesome supply of drinking water and should implement the following recommendations without delay.</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Confirm that the final water turbidity monitor is operating correctly and continue to ensure that the 1 NTU operational limit is protected.</li><li>2. Complete (i) a source and sanitary survey to confirm the log treatment requirement for the supply; (ii) provide a timeframe to address any treatment log deficit that exists.</li><li>3. Develop and display the Uisce Éireann Incident Communications Response Guidance Form with site specific information including contacts for escalation and relevant trigger levels protecting critical processes at the water treatment plant. Ensure that all staff are trained on the response procedures.</li><li>4. Put a documented procedure 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.</li></ol> <p><b>Actions required by Uisce Éireann</b></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>		