



Drinking Water Quality Regulator
for Scotland

Incident Assessment

Lintrathen Supply Zone
Microbiological Failure
3 October 2011

DWQR Inspector:
William Byers

Summary of Incident

A sample taken following a water main repair in Dundee on 3 October 2011, failed the microbiological standard with 1 Coliform being recorded. Resamples were requested to be taken but the requests were not fulfilled.

DWQR declared this an incident due to a failure of management processes to ensure resamples were taken to verify water quality in the vicinity of the repair and that compliance has not been demonstrated within two months.

DWQR Assessment of Cause of Incident

There has been no conclusion to the cause of the microbiological failure. DWQR considers the failure to schedule appropriate resampling to be at the root of the declaration of the incident.

DWQR Assessment of Actions Taken by Scottish Water

DWQR considers Scottish Water to have failed to carry out appropriate sampling to investigate this water quality failure. It is important that failures of the standards are investigated, particularly in the case where the possibility of contamination entering the water supply system at mains repairs, is a significant risk. Any microbiological failure requires follow through to ensure that reassurance can be provided to affected consumers.

DWQR made one recommendation following this incident.

