

Incident Assessment

Shieldaig WTW Persistent *Cryptosporidium* Detections Sept 2011

DWQR Inspector:
Matthew Bower

Summary of Incident

Persistent detections of *Cryptosporidium* oocysts have occurred in this small water supply near Torridon in Wester Ross. In line with DWQR's policy for all water quality exceedences not resolved by Scottish Water within two months, this issue has been declared an incident. The works is also unable to comply with the standard for Trihalomethanes (THMs).

DWQR Assessment of the Cause of the Incident

Shieldaig WTW currently has very basic treatment that is not capable of removing *Cryptosporidium* oocysts. Although the oocysts are often present in very low numbers in water supplied by the works, the current episode of detections of larger numbers of oocysts has continued since May 2011.

DWQR Assessment of Actions Taken by Scottish Water

There is little scope for Scottish Water to optimise the treatment process currently at the site. Scottish Water is planning to construct a new treatment works to serve Shieldaig. This will be operational by December 2013.

DWQR wrote to Scottish Water in September 2011 requesting that temporary treatment be installed. Scottish Water has agreed to install temporary membrane treatment at the site from early 2012.