

Killylour WTW Repeat *Cryptosporidium* Detections 2016

DWQR Inspector:
Matt Bower

Event No. 7454

Event Category: Significant

Summary of Incident

Between 1 January and 1 April 2016, 7 low level *Cryptosporidium* oocyst detections occurred in the final water leaving Killylour WTW, which mixes with Terregles WTW and serves Dumfries. All detections were reported to the local authority and health board, and it was not felt necessary to implement any restrictions on use of the supply. The detections occurred because the treatment process at Killylour was not capable of removing *Cryptosporidium* oocysts.

DWQR Assessment of Cause of Incident

The cause of the incident was the inability of the treatment process at Killylour to remove *Cryptosporidium* oocysts from the water. Scottish Water attribute the increase in oocyst detections to adverse weather and flooding in the catchment, however a robust, well operated treatment process should be capable of removing oocysts.

DWQR Assessment of Actions Taken by Scottish Water

In response to the detections, Scottish Water reduced the flow through the treatment works as far as possible by increasing the use of other supplies. The company also increased the frequency of *Cryptosporidium* monitoring at the plant in response to the increased risk. DWQR considers this to be an appropriate response.

DWQR notes that a new membrane treatment process was commissioned at Killylour in May 2016. No oocyst detections have occurred since this process became operational.

No actions have been identified in response to this incident.