

Afton WTW Failure of Disinfection Process 15th October 2024

Event No. 15051

Event Category: Significant

On the 15 October 2024, approximately 500m³ of water is known to have passed forward to the clear water tank (CWT) without being properly disinfected because of a loss of dosing following a power failure and the premature restoration of forward flow. Treated water chlorine breached the Emergency Action Level (EAL) for an hour with the lowest monitor reading recorded as 0.148mg/l. There were no breaches of final water chlorine which remained above EAL.

Scottish Water did not receive any water quality contacts associated with this incident. Sampling was arranged for the 15 – 17 October 2025, covering the WTW and distribution. Of the 10 samples taken, none failed regulatory requirements.

It is clear from Scottish Water's event outcome report that this incident was caused by the failure of the switch over from mains to standby generator power following a mains power interruption. This led to a forward flow of undisinfecting water due to a loss of chemical dosing.

The event has been categorised as significant. Scottish Water has identified eight actions which DWQR accepts are appropriate and will monitor to ensure they are completed prior to signing off the incident. DWQR made zero additional recommendations.