

South Hoy WTW, Orkney

1 September 2009

Number of Findings: 10

Inspection Report

Overall Summary

South Hoy WTW produces water of excellent quality and is well run by operational staff. The design of the works serves to make its operation more difficult than necessary, and some areas of capital maintenance require attention. Work to address interventions identified in the Drinking Water Safety Plan for the site has been slow.

Score
(out of 6)

Quality of Water Produced 5 Very good

The Quality of water produced at this site is excellent, mainly due to good raw water quality and the robust membrane treatment process.

Robustness of Treatment Asset 3 Adequate

Although the membrane process is operating effectively at the site, there are a number of issues that do not impact directly on water quality but serve to make the role of operational staff more difficult or make the process less resilient.

Operational Practices 4 Good

Operational staff are well trained and diligent, doing their best to operate the process as effectively as possible. In some cases they are working to overcome difficulties presented by the design of the asset and inadequacies in operational flexibility.

Maintenance of Asset 3 Adequate

Routine checks are being undertaken thoroughly by operational staff. There are a number of capital maintenance issues at the site that have not been addressed, and these could increase the possibility of failure of one or more components of the process.

Safeguards and Procedures 3 Adequate

The treatment works has all the basic monitoring equipment required, and has a consistent link to Scottish Water's control room via the telemetry system. Work to make operational alarms more meaningful to operators would be an advantage.

Water Safety Plan Development and Implementation 2 Weak

A number of items have been raised in the drinking water safety plan a few years ago, and most of the identified interventions relating to these remain to be actioned. Further progress on these is required.