

Incident Assessment

Tullich Water Supply Zone, Oban Persistent Trihalomethane Failures November 2011 - Ongoing

DWQR Inspector:
Matthew Bower

Details of Incident

There have been ongoing exceedences of the THM standard caused by chlorine used to disinfect the water reacting with naturally occurring organic material in the water. Most exceedences have been marginal.

DWQR Assessment of Cause of Incident

Currently, Tullich water treatment works does not have processes capable of removing sufficient organic compounds to prevent the formation of these substances. Scottish Water has tried a number of measures to improve compliance, but the treatment process is fundamentally lacking in the capability to prevent these substances from forming.

DWQR Assessment of Actions Taken by Scottish Water

Scottish Water has tried a number of measures to optimise the existing treatment process and reduce the extent to which THMs form. DWQR has audited Tullich and discussed the issue with staff. Scottish Water is currently considering some innovative processes to reduce the concentration of THMs in the short term and there are plans to construct a new treatment works that will be capable of producing water that meets the regulatory standard.

