

# Incident Assessment

## Achmore WTW Persistent THM Failures Oct 2011

DWQR Inspector:  
Matthew Bower

### Summary of Incident

Persistent exceedences of the standard for total trihalomethanes have occurred in this small water supply East of Kyle of Lochalsh 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.

### DWQR Assessment of the Cause of the Incident

Achmore currently has very basic treatment that is not capable of completely removing the naturally occurring organic compounds that react with chlorine to produce THMs.

### DWQR Assessment of Actions Taken by Scottish Water

Scottish Water has refurbished one of the two filters at the works, including replacing the granular activated carbon that removes the THM – causing compounds. The second filter is now also off line having been refurbished and will be returned to service once the necessary checks have been undertaken.

The works is due to be replaced by a supply from the Kyle of Lochalsh treatment works, which is a modern membrane treatment works. Scottish Water has committed to completing the transfer by January 2013 at the latest. DWQR is keen that Scottish Water does all it can to minimise THM formation in the meantime, and, having noted that chlorine residuals appear quite variable at the works, requests that the company investigates whether any interim improvement can be made to chlorine monitoring and dosing.

Action Number	Action Description	Status
1	Investigate control of chlorine dosing at the site and make any reasonable interim improvements required to stabilise chlorine residuals, reporting back to DWQR	Complete