Technical Inspection of Scottish Water Treatment Works

Elgol WTW, Skye

5 October 2009

Inspection Report

Overall Summary

This small treatment works does not have the treatment processes required to consistently treat water to meet modern standards, and some failures have occurred for a number of parameters. A recent upgrade to disinfection at the site has probably improved matters, however the benefits from this cannot be realised until the incoming water is treated to a consistent standard in the first place. Operational staff are doing their best to operate and maintain this asset.

Number of Findings:	**5**	
	Score (out of 6)	
Quality of Water Produced	**2**	**Weak**
The quality of water produced at this site is not as good as it should be, and breaches of the standards for iron and THMs occur, despite efforts being made by operation staff.		
Robustness of Treatment Asset	**2**	**Weak**
The treatment process at this site are not adequate to cope with changes in raw water quality that occur. Although disinfection has recently been improved, this improvement is largely wasted without upgraded treatment also.		
Operational Practices	**4**	**Good**
Staff are doing the best to operate and optimise an inadequate treatment asset. Housekeeping and process knowledge are very good.		
Maintenance of Asset	**4**	**Good**
Essential maintenance tasks are being done and recorded at the required frequency. Equipment and monitors were generally in good condition. Some notable maintenance tasks have been undertaken, such as filter media replacement, in an effort to improve water quality.		
Safeguards and Procedures	**4**	**Good**
The works has appropriate monitoring and shutdowns, although it would benefit from a final water chlorine monitor.		
Water Safety Plan Development and Implementation	**3**	**Adequate**
Risks highlighted in the Water Safety Plan appear appropriate. Some progress has been made with interventions to address these, but more is needed. The extent of the work required at this site means that considerable capital expenditure is necessary.		