

[REDACTED]

From: EIR
Sent: 11 April 2025 08:44
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: [REDACTED]
Attachments: Raunds WRC WRA and UW Sample data.xlsx

Dear requester

Provision of requested information

Thank you for your request for information about Raunds STW, which we received on 16 March 2023. Your request has been considered under the Environmental Information Regulations 2004.

1) Could you tell me the reasons behind the possible relocation of the outfall under the medium term strategy? For what reason would the outfall be relocated and where could it be relocated too?

We have no knowledge of this proposal, can we ask where this has come from?

2) Also would you be able to tell the scope of what AW investigations are currently ongoing at Raunds STW?

There are no current live investigations ongoing at Raunds however there are business as usual activities which are prompted in response to action limit breaches on sample results and ongoing monitoring of compliance with FFT.

There is a proposed AMP8 growth scheme and a new permit condition for cypermethrin, scoping is currently ongoing for this.

3) The latest PE figures you provided for Raunds was 2024 annual data return 12546 p.e which is higher than your quoted potential figure for 2035 of 12,252. Is it possible to explain why the discrepancy between these figures?

The 2035 data was estimated in 2020 when the population growth in the area was estimated to be modest.

Further questions on data you have provided if I may.

For the year 2019, the flow pattern followed an expected flow pattern bumping along or below DWF with spikes indicative of rainfall and then at the end of the year suddenly rose to possibly unrealistic levels a great many of which were way above daily FFT equivalent. The highest 16,950 M3 on 23/12/2019. The graphs for 2020 indicates a sudden drop from 16,942 M3 on 05/02/2020 down to 4,883 CM3 on 07/02/2020. After this significant drop in flow the flow pattern is normal. 2021 and 2022 show huge variations in flow within very short periods of time. Rather than me trying to describe the flow pattern I would suggest you could check these figures. The flow graphs for 2023 and 2024 are much more as might be expected.

4) Therefore I wonder with the above information and your own analysis might you be able to explain the reason for the long periods of time where flow has been at unusually high fluctuating levels?

Between October 2019 and February 2020 flows were recorded above FFT for the majority of the period which explains the higher flows seen (5th wettest winter according to the Met Office). The sudden drop was investigated and this found the site is very reactive to wet/dry conditions.

Following investigations into FFT one of the causes of spilling early was excessive build up of grit which could have led to some falsely high flow readings but this site now has a cleaning regime which has improved FFT compliance and seen a more balanced flow pattern.

A further question arises out of the FFT and EDM data you have supplied.

An initial analysis indicated spilling taking place at times of increased flow that would normally be associated with rainfall. Many of the spills would seem to correspond with FFT being within 90% of permit limit but I seem to have found periods of possible diversion to storm facilities during periods when FFT was recorded significantly below the permit level.

I use as an example the first three days of 2023 in which there were 4 periods of spilling over extended durations. Within these 4 periods were included a total of 270 FFT as 15 minute records of which just one was in excess of 95 l/s.

WRC	Start time	Start date	End time	End date	Duration minutes	Time of highest 15 min FFT in period	Highest FFT l/s	Qty FFT over 95 l/s
RAUNDS STW	01/01/2023	00:00:00	01/01/2023	04:45:00	285	01/01/2023 03:15	80	0
RAUNDS STW	01/01/2023	09:30:00	02/01/2023	00:00:00	870	01/01/2023 19:00	83.1	0
RAUNDS STW	02/01/2023	00:00:00	03/01/2023	00:00:00	1440	02/01/2023 04:15	103.7	1
RAUNDS STW	03/01/2023	00:00:00	04/01/2023	00:00:00	1440	03/01/2023 06:30	86.5	0

5) I wonder can you confirm that these 4 periods of spilling could be considered as early spilling or have I misunderstood how the system functions.

It would appear that during this time we are below FFT so yes would be indicative of early spilling. Following investigations at the time one of the causes of this was excessive build up of grit but this site now has a cleaning regime which has improved FFT compliance. Looking at our data compliance improved from approximately August 2023.

6) I wonder could you explain exactly how the return to full flow of materials from the storm tanks at Raunds operates once FFT goes below permitted rates?

Storm tank auto returns when flow drop below FFT but can also be operated manually if required by the operator on site.

7) Could you advise the routine for removal of sludge/sediment from empty storm tanks is effected?

The storm tanks are concrete sloped tanks, these self drain and cleanse but the site operator also maintains them using onsite washwater as required to clean them down after a period of use.

8) Might I have copies of the annual summary compliance reports from Raunds WRC for the years 2019 to 2024 inclusive. If appropriate these to include no flow/no samples.

Please see attached Raunds WRC WRA and UW Sample Data spreadsheet

9) The lagoon at the West end of the Raunds STW site is not mentioned in the permit or where it might fit into the treatment process. Could you please explain how and when this lagoon is used at Raunds STW.

The lagoon at the west end of the site is a redundant asset. It is not used, and is not part of the permit or operation of the site.

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If you have any queries about this email, please contact me.

Yours sincerely

EIR Team

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