

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your request for environmental information. We appreciate your interest, and we want to let you know that your request has been carefully considered in accordance with the Environmental Information Regulations (EIR). As your request contained a number of specific questions, this response, restates each part of the request (in bold) and then follows this with our response.

**Please provide details on your emergency overflows.**

**1. the locations of all of your emergency overflow discharges**

We have 651 permitted emergency overflow assets and 323 jointly permitted storm and emergency overflow assets. We have provided a list and location for all of these emergency overflows as Appendix 1.

**2. whether you have reported to the Environment Agency that the site has discharged outside of emergency conditions.**

Appendix 1 provides a list of all our permitted emergency overflows, including the site name, the outlet discharge National Grid Reference (NGR) and notes whether the asset was included in our submission to the Environment Agency (EA) as potentially operating as a storm overflow. We provide more details on this submission to the EA further below.

It is also worth emphasising that following the Water Special Measures Act, companies are now delivering programmes to install event duration monitors on all emergency overflows by 2035. This programme and the implications for the data within this EIR response, are also discussed further below.

**Environment Agency review and submission**

The EA is currently conducting a review of emergency overflows to establish the most appropriate regulatory outcome, that meets the requirements of the Urban Wastewater Treatment Regulations (UWWTR) and the Government's Storm Overflow Discharge Reduction Plan (SODRP).

As part of this review, we have provided the EA with a list of overflows at pumping stations that may be operating hydraulically, but that could either be incorrectly permitted as an emergency only overflow, or that could require some asset reconfiguration to allow them to operate effectively as an emergency overflow.

The information that we have provided is based on the available Event Duration Monitoring (EDM) data, from the relatively few sites that currently have EDM installed, appropriately complemented by

our best assessment, where EDM data is not available. **The information provided therefore, represents an assessed position only and should not be interpreted as being confirmed evidence of any storm overflow operation from these sites.**

### **Programme of works to install EDM**

Following the Water Special Measures Act, companies are now delivering programmes to install event duration monitors on all emergency overflows at pumping stations: 50% coverage by 2030 and 100% coverage by 2035.

A monitoring certification schemes (MCERTS) standard EDM is required to be able to definitively identify if a pumping station overflow is operating as a storm overflow. The installation of these monitors is being rolled out through the Water Industry National Environment Programme (WINEP) under the U\_MON6 investment programme.

Once this monitoring programme is complete, we will have access to the data required to definitively identify all pumping station overflows that may be incorrectly permitted as emergency only overflows, or that require asset reconfiguration to allow them to effectively operate as an emergency only overflow. Until this programme is completed, we will however, need to rely upon the best information available, whilst recognising that this data may be incomplete.

We also note that if monitoring identifies an emergency overflow is operating as a storm overflow, an extensive investigation may then be required to investigate the upstream network, review pumping station operation and update hydraulic models to understand the root cause of spills, and ultimately determine whether the site is suitable for re-permitting to include a storm overflow permit.

We hope that this response answers your request. However, if you're not satisfied with how we've handled it, you can request an internal review. To do this, please write to us at Environmental Information Office, Haweswater House, Lingley Mere, Warrington, WA5 3LP or email us at [EIRRequests@uuplc.co.uk](mailto:EIRRequests@uuplc.co.uk), addressing your request to [REDACTED], and explaining why you're unhappy with our response. We'll be very happy to review your request and ensure we've done everything we can to assist you.

Any request for an internal review should be made within 40 working days of receipt of this response, and we will reply within 40 working days from receipt of the request for internal review.

Many thanks  
[REDACTED]

We'd love to hear your feedback on how we handled your request! If you have a moment, please complete our short survey [here](#) – your input helps us improve our service.