

Llyr Gruffydd MS
Chair, Climate Change, Environment
and Infrastructure Committee
Welsh Parliament
Cardiff Bay
Cardiff
CF99 1SN

By email: Seneddclimate@senedd.wales

13 August 2025

Dear Llyr,

Ffos-y-Fran

Thank you for your letter of 3 July regarding the allegations of toxic waste disposal at Ffos-y-Fran.

We appreciate the serious nature of the allegations, and I have set out our answer to each question in turn below. If we can help with any further information, please don't hesitate to let me know.

What is the status of NRW's investigation into the alleged illegal waste disposal activities at the Ffos-y-Fran site?

NRW has received allegations regarding alleged waste disposal activities at Ffos-y-Fran. As yet there have been no formal submission of allegations or incidents reported to NRW. We initiated an initial enquiry relating to the Nation Cymru allegations as a consequence of the media reports.

What is the scope and timeline for this work?

The scope and timeline of our investigation will depend on whether sufficient and actionable evidence is available to us. At this time, we do not wish to prejudice any potential long-term enforcement outcome.

When was NRW first made aware of these allegations?

Between early 2022 and mid 2023 NRW received a small number of information reports regarding potential illegal activity at Ffos y Fran. These were reviewed at the time by

officers from NRW but were not substantiated. They will be revisited in light of the allegations made in the Nation Cymru article dated 14 May 2025.

Has NRW previously raised any concerns with Merthyr (South Wales) Ltd in relation to environmental compliance or waste management practices?

The operator's permit compliance performance can be found on our [public register](#). This relates to Water Management compliance. We have had no significant compliance concerns relating to their environmental performance in relation to their permit. We are still involved with the site and working with our partners as part of the technical working group relating to the ongoing long-term remediation of the site.

What steps have been taken to verify the allegations raised by the whistleblower concerning the disposal of hazardous materials, including battery acid?

We cannot outline specific steps and progress as we do not wish to prejudice any potential long-term enforcement outcome, but we have initiated preliminary enquiries. As with all reports of non-compliance or potential illegal activities, we triage the information and will act accordingly. If anyone has further information on the matter, we would request reports are made direct to NRW via the incident helpline in the first instance (for further details please see [our website](#)).

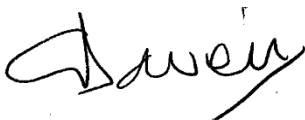
As the Committee is probably aware, whistleblower reports are not typically disclosed and by their nature are not a matter for public discourse to protect the anonymity of the whistleblower.

Will NRW commit to publishing the findings of its investigation and keeping the public and relevant stakeholders informed of progress?

We will commit to publishing our investigation findings. The timing of this will depend on the progress of the investigation. As with all investigations, we make information public (where relevant) after the case has been concluded or the investigation has been closed. As with all similar situations, we don't wish to prejudice any current or future investigations.

It is worth noting our Enforcement & Sanctions Policy ([Natural Resources Wales / Enforcement and sanctions policy](#)) and that for investigations to proceed, we must have sufficient and applicable evidence. If anyone has further information on this matter, we would request reports are made direct to NRW via the incident helpline.

Yours sincerely,



Ceri Davies
Prif Weithredwr Dros Do
Interim Chief Executive Officer

Croesewir gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg a byddwn yn ymateb yn Gymraeg, heb i hynny arwain at oedi.
Correspondence in Welsh is welcomed, and we will respond in Welsh without it leading to a delay.