

A new Environmental Event has been submitted.

Location: Mid Yell, Shetland ZE2 9BP, UK

Lat: 60.59933

Long: -1.062337

Date of event: 09-Jan-2017

Time event observed: 7:30

Event status: Ongoing

Event category: Water

Description of event: Over the last 6 months hundreds of litres of Hypochlorous Acid - labelled "Harmful to Marine Environment" - has been added to the blood water silos at the Mid Yell packing station. As can be seen from the accompanying photograph this is overflowing into the sea. You cannot see this overflow anymore as the silos have lids on them (out of sight out of mind?). The majority of the raw effluent has been flowing directly into the sea as the water treatment works have no chance of coping with the quantity involved due to the design flaws. The manager and his boss, , have been aware of this for over a year but refuse to deal with it due to costs. For years now the samples have produced a reading in excess of 20,000ppm/TDS - this being the limit of the test equipment. I believe the legal level is 500ppm. and are aware of this. A few months ago requested a gallon sample of outflow water so that he could send it off for independent testing. Apparently it came back fully within limits? However, the sample supplied to him was in an unsealed container! Perhaps SEPA should take their own sample for testing. A good place to take a sample would be the drain at the South East end of the treatment plant as this is directly before the exit into the sea. Management have frequently threatened staff, and locals, with such comments as "Do you want this job or not?" and "Don't complain or you'll get the factory shut down." Quite obviously scaremongering, as the worst that could happen is that the company will be forced to spend the money to rectify the problems. Perhaps this would also stop the weekly offensive smell complaints from locals, the school and tourists etc.

Event source: Water Treatment, Cooke Aquaculture packing station, Mid Yell

Image of event: See attached image

Contact name:

Contact telephone:

Contact email:

This is an automated email. Please do not respond.