



Water for the North West

**United Utilities Water Limited**  
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**Our ref:** EIR-374

**Date:** 16/05/2025

**Email:** [EIRRequests@uuplc.co.uk](mailto:EIRRequests@uuplc.co.uk)

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). Please see our comments, as follows:

**I hope you're well. I am conducting a screening assessment to support a permit variation and was hoping you could provide some monitoring data for the Consent to Discharge 017020107, DPID 70250619011. We are focusing particularly on cyanide, arsenic, cadmium, chromium, copper, lead, nickel, mercury and zinc, and are aware that many of these are listed in the consent so will potentially have monitoring data.**

**We are aware of results listed on Open WIMS at the sample point below, however this is more limited than we anticipated, with most determinands only measured in 2004, 2005 and 2007, and more up to date data would be beneficial.**

<b>Sampling point</b>	<b>Skelmersdale WwTW Biol Treated Fe Disch</b>
<b>Sampling Point ID</b>	<b>NW-88021863</b>
<b>Easting northing</b>	<b>348170 412020</b>

Please note, the discharge permit for Skelmersdale Wastewater Treatment Works (WwTW) does not include the substances listed in your enquiry, and we therefore do not carry out regulatory sampling for these determinands at this point. With this in mind, please see attached two spreadsheets containing non-regulatory sample data we hold for Skelmersdale WwTW, which dates from 31<sup>st</sup> March 2004 to 14th April 2025. Samples were taken in a different format during 2015-2016, hence why a separate spreadsheet of sample data has been provided.

Please be aware that non-regulatory samples are not collected in accordance with a specific standard or collected in a specific format and therefore there is no assurance of the accuracy of the sample results data, in the same way there is for regulatory sampling. United Utilities' operational resources, collecting non-regulatory samples are not subject to the same level of training and sampling quality assurance of our regulatory samples that are undertaken and therefore the non-regulatory sample results are considered less robust and reliable compared to our regulatory samples.

It is also important to note that some of the instruments used to analyse samples in the laboratory have a Limit of Detection (LOD) – any results marked as less than the LOD means that the result is lower than the lowest quantifiable value which the instruments can pick up. In the 'Skelmersdale

WwTW Sample Data' column, column E is the qualifier, so whether the data is greater than (GT) or less than (LT) the LOD. In 'Skelmersdale WwTW 2015-2016 Data', columns labelled 'number or <' are the qualifier. Please note that the instruments we use for analysis have changed over the last 21 years, as have the LOD therefore conclusions should not be drawn from this data, as they could be misleading.

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  
EIR Team

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.