**United Utilities Water Limited**
Haweswater House
Lingley Mere Business Park
Lingley Green Avenue
Great Sankey
Warrington WA5 3LP

Telephone: 01925 237000

unitedutilities.com

**Our ref:** EIR-1043
**Date:** November 2026
**Email:** 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).

**Your request:**

I would like to submit an EIR for your trade-effluent consent from AGC Chemicals in Thornton-Cleveleys, FY5 4QD.

Information from the Environment Agency shows that since at least 2006 AGC was authorised to discharge up to 20 kg of PFOA a day into the public sewer.

1. Please can you give me your trade effluent consents with AGC from when they first sent you effluent?
2. How much did they sent you annually?
3. Which United Utilities works this went to?
4. What treatment did it undergo?
5. Please send me any testing data of the effluent that you have, that either UU undertook, or that AGC Chemicals sent you?
6. Where was it eventually discharged by UU - which waterway?
7. Did the UU facility produce sewage sludge fertiliser? If so, where was the destination? Which geographical area and what type of farm land?

I would like this information for the full period of the trade effluent consent from 1998 till the consent expired.

**Our response:**

**Question 1 -**
United Utilities has never held a permit for the discharge of trade effluent from AGC Chemicals at Hillhouse International, Thornton-Cleveleys. AGC Chemicals Europe Limited did, however, previously operate under the name Asahi Glass Fluoropolymers UK ltd and United Utilities did hold a consent to discharge trade effluent with this company from its site at York House, Hillhouse International, Thornton-Cleveleys. This trade effluent consent was active between 2000 and 2012. However, between 2006 and 2012 no discharge to foul sewer was

registered, as detailed in the table shown below in question 2. This consent did not permit the discharge of PFOA into the foul sewer at any point during this period.

**Question 2**
Our records show we received the following volumes from Asahi Glass Fluoropolymers UK ltd:

| Financial Year | Volume ($m^3$) |
|---|---|
| 2000/01 | 0 |
| 2001/02 | 0 |
| 2002/03 | 0 |
| 2003/04 | Volume data unavailable |
| 2004/05 | 156 |
| 2005/06 | 472 |
| 2006/07 | 52 |
| 2007/08 | 0 |
| 2008/08 | 0 |
| 2009/10 | 0 |
| 2010/11 | 0 |
| 2011/12 | 0 |

Please note that we have checked our records for 2003/04 and are unable to locate the volume information. As such, under Regulation 12(4)(a) of the EIR, we cannot provide this information, as it is not held.

**Question 3**
The volumes outlined in the response to Question 2 would have been sent to Fleetwood Wastewater Treatment works (WwTW).

**Question 4**
Fleetwood WwTW is made up of the following process stages; preliminary treatment (which consists of screening and grit removal), primary settlement, and secondary treatment (which consists of submerged biological contactors and final settlement).

**Question 5**
The enclosed Appendix A outlines the sample data we hold Asahi Glass Fluoropolymers UK ltd.

We hold no record of Asahi Glass Fluoropolymers UK sending us any additional data. Likewise, there is no data for AGC Chemicals Europe Limited, as no trade effluent discharge permit exists. As such, under Regulation 12(4)(a) of the EIR, we cannot provide this information, as it is not held.

**Question 6**
The site discharge point/outfall is Lune Deeps, Irish Sea.

**Question 7**
No sludge treatment (digestion or liming) was undertaken at Fleetwood WwTW during this period and, as such, there was no direct recycling of biosolids to agriculture from this site.

Around 2004, a centrifuge was installed at Fleetwood WwTW to undertake sludge dewatering. The sludge cake from this dewatering activity was then exported to a liming site in Lincolnshire.

The treated cake from this liming site is will have been recycled to agriculture around the Lincoln area. We do not hold records of these applications, as the duty of care of the waste transferred to the liming site upon delivery. As such, under Regulation 12(4)(a) of the EIR, we cannot provide this information, as it is not held.

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, 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

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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.