

STATEMENT OF WITNESS

TI 2300062

STATEMENT OF:

AGE OF WITNESS (if over 21 enter "over 21"):

OVER 21

OCCUPATION OF WITNESS:

CIVIL SERVANT

ADDRESS:

NORTHERN IRELAND ENVIRONMENT AGENCY,
17 ANTRIM ROAD, TONAGH, LISBURN, BT28 3AL

TO BE COMPLETED
WHEN THE
STATEMENT HAS
BEEN WRITTEN

I declare that this statement consisting of 2 pages, each signed by me is true to the best of my knowledge and belief and I make it knowing that, if it is tendered in evidence at a preliminary enquiry or at the trial of any person, I shall be liable to prosecution if I have wilfully stated in it anything which I know to be false or do not believe to be true.

Dated this

22nd day of February

2023

SIGNATURE OF MEMBER by whom
statement was recorded or received.

SIGNATURE OF WITNESS

I am a Higher Scientific Officer employed by the Northern Ireland Environment Agency (NIEA). On 12/02/2023, [REDACTED] on behalf of NIEA, delivered one sealed statutory sample to the laboratory. The following day, the sample was retrieved from the refrigerator with the seal intact. The sample was labelled as follows:

Sample Id:

WR 4/23/0956

Taken from:

Sheugh [REDACTED]

Taken by:

Witness:

Date & Time taken:

12/02/2023 at 16:55

Visible Oil or Grease:

Nil

Upon receipt in the laboratory the sample was given the identification number TI 2300062.

SIGNATURE OF WITNESS ...

TI 2300062

STATEMENT OF: [REDACTED]

CONTINUATION PAGE NO: 2**EXAMINATION OF SAMPLES**

My examination was conducted with the assistance of scientific support staff. A full record of the work undertaken is contained within the laboratory records made at the time of the examination and those are available for inspection.

The analysis was carried out by NIEA staff using the following test methods:-

pH	In-house method M0387
Biochemical Oxygen Demand	In-house method M0145
Total Ammonia	In-house method M0171
Chloride	In-house method M0171
Suspended Solids	In-house method M0152

RESULTS

The results of the analysis were as follows:

Test	Results	Test Date
pH	7.7	13/02/2023
Biochemical Oxygen Demand (ATU) 5 Days at 20°C as O ₂	52	15/02/2023
Total Ammonia as N	17.7	14/02/2023
Chloride as Cl	77	14/02/2023
Suspended Solids	162	13/02/2023

Results, except pH, are expressed in milligrams per litre.

CONCLUSIONS

The results of the analysis show that the sample taken from a sheugh [REDACTED] had a high Biochemical Oxygen Demand with high Total Ammonia and Suspended Solids contents.

This sample contained poisonous, noxious or polluting matter which would have been potentially harmful to aquatic life in a receiving waterway.

STATEMENT OF WITNESS

STATEMENT OF: [REDACTED]

AGE OF WITNESS (if over 21 enter "over 21"): **Over 21**

OCCUPATION OF WITNESS: **Water Quality Inspector**

ADDRESS: [REDACTED]

I declare that this statement of 2 pages signed by me is true to the best of my knowledge and belief and I make it knowing that, if it is tendered in evidence at a preliminary enquiry or at the trial of any person, I shall be liable to prosecution if I have wilfully stated in it anything which I know to be false or do not believe to be true.

Dated this 13th day of November 2023

SIGNATURE OF WITNESS (BY WHOM
STATEMENT WAS RECORDED OR RECEIVED)

[REDACTED]
SIGNATURE OF WITNESS

My name is [REDACTED]. I am an employee of [REDACTED] and I carry out duties on behalf of the Water Management Unit of the Northern Ireland Environment Agency, for whom I hold a current valid warrant card – number [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
audited for sampling procedures by the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs.

At 14:05 on the 12th February 2023 I inspected the Crumlin River [REDACTED]. The river was discoloured brown upstream and downstream of the bridge. (See Exhibit [REDACTED] 1 – Location Map A and Exhibit [REDACTED] 2 – Photograph [REDACTED] 1).

At 14:15 I inspected the river upstream at Moira Road bridge. I counted 4 dead fish; the river was discoloured brown (See Exhibit [REDACTED] 3 – Photograph [REDACTED] 2).

At 14:40 I counted 2 dead fingerlings upstream of tributary [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]. The tributary was visibly clear; the main Crumlin River was still discoloured brown (See Exhibit [REDACTED] 4 – Photograph [REDACTED] 3 & Exhibit [REDACTED] 5 – Photograph [REDACTED] 4).

At 14:50 I observed 1 dead trout (approx. ½ lb) immediately downstream of [REDACTED] bridge (See Exhibit [REDACTED] 6 – Photograph [REDACTED] 5). [REDACTED] ([REDACTED] Crumlin River) was still discoloured brown upstream [REDACTED] (See Exhibit [REDACTED] 7 – Photograph [REDACTED] 6) and also immediately downstream of [REDACTED] (See Exhibit [REDACTED] – Photograph [REDACTED] 7).

[REDACTED]
SIGNATURE OF WITNESS

STATEMENT CONTINUATION PAGE

STATEMENT OF : [REDACTED]

CONTINUATION PAGE : 2

Approximately ½ mile up the [REDACTED] I observed slurry being spread to fields.

At 15:20 I phoned my colleague [REDACTED] to request that she assist me.

At 16:27 I inspected the stream culverted under [REDACTED] upstream of [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]; the stream was visibly clear (See Exhibit [REDACTED] 9 – Location Map B and
Exhibit [REDACTED] 10 -Photograph [REDACTED] 8).

At 16:30 my colleague [REDACTED] and I observed biosecurity measures and entered the
[REDACTED]. We introduced ourselves to [REDACTED] and explained the
reason for our visit. At 16:45 I spoke to the [REDACTED] who was cleaning out a
sheugh with a digger downhill from the [REDACTED] (See Exhibit [REDACTED] 11 – Photograph [REDACTED] 9). I
stated I felt that it looked as if a flow of slurry had discharged down the sheugh and slurry was
still visible on the sheugh banks (See Exhibit [REDACTED] 12 – Photograph [REDACTED] 10). I invited [REDACTED]
to witness the collection of a statutory sample from the sheugh: [REDACTED] declined.

At 16:55 I collected a tripartite statutory sample in a pool approximately 20m upstream of the
sheugh's confluence with visibly clear stream (See Exhibit [REDACTED] 13 – Photograph [REDACTED] 11).

I asked [REDACTED] when the contractors started slurry spreading: [REDACTED] replied "This morning".

I asked [REDACTED] if there had been any spills or bursts: [REDACTED] replied "No".

I delivered the 3 parts of the tripartite sample to sample reception at WMU, Lisburn where I
placed them in the sample reception fridge at 18:00.

SIGNATURE OF WITNESS

STATEMENT CONTINUATION PAGE

STATEMENT OF : [REDACTED]

CONTINUATION PAGE : 3

[REDACTED]
SIGNATURE OF WITNESS

STATEMENT CONTINUATION PAGE

[REDACTED]
SIGNATURE OF WITNESS