

From: EIR Compliance

To:

Subject: 20250903 – EIR – Data Supplied

Date: 03 September 2025 16:35:00

Attachments: image001.jpg

Reference Number: **EIR**

Dear

We refer to your request for information submitted to Yorkshire Water dated 6 August 2025:

“– Between 01.01.25–05.08.25, on how many occasions did your company report a dry day spill to the Environment Agency? Please provide a breakdown by month.

– Between 01.01.25–05.08.25, please provide the cumulative duration of dry day spills. Please provide the figure in hours and provide a breakdown by month and the longest consecutive spill for each month.”

Included with this email is the data that you have requested.

Yorkshire Water is currently reporting Dry Day Spills (DDS) in line with the Environment Agency’s (EA) working definition of a “dry day.” While this definition remains under review and subject to change, water companies are required to submit DDS data monthly, operating one month in arrears to allow for dataset validation. The current dataset spans from 1st January to 31st July.

The DDS dataset includes all discharges that meet the EA’s trigger thresholds for dry day events. It is important to note that this dataset reflects raw discharge data and does not incorporate subsequent investigations or operational justifications. These may include:

- Snowmelt events

- Catchment drain-downs
- Other legitimate operational factors

Figure 1

Month	Reported Spills	Total Hours	Max Duration (Hours)
Jan	220	2,405	24
Feb	104	776	24
Mar	113	443	24
Apr	67	819	24
May	51	66	11
June	15	7	2
July	13	11	3

Analysis of the submitted data (see Figure 1) reveals a strong correlation between monthly rainfall and DDS occurrences. This suggests that the majority of these spills will be influenced by increased flow in to the network and will be heavily diluted due to:

- Ground saturation
- Illegal or unregulated inflows (e.g., land drains)
- Extended drain-down periods following rainfall

Yorkshire Water is committed to reducing discharges from our storm overflows through improvements to our network and working collaboratively with the Environment Agency and local landowners to reduce unwanted inflow into our network.

Tackling storm overflows is a key priority for us at Yorkshire Water. Over the past 2 years, we've invested £180m to reduce discharges from more than 100 of our storm overflows across the region. As part of our largest ever environmental investment programme, Yorkshire Water will be delivering a further £1.5bn of investment over the next 5 years towards significantly reducing the use of storm overflows across the entire Yorkshire region. Our colleagues are working with industry experts on innovative new solutions to protect our rivers and coastal waters. These teams are working to build a number of clever and sustainable engineering solutions which will help cut down how often storm overflows are

used to help improve the health of rivers and coastal waters, ensuring a thriving Yorkshire for future generations.

We trust that the provision of this data satisfies your request. In accordance with the Environmental Information Regulations 2004, if you are not satisfied with this reply to your request you can ask for an internal review. A request for an internal review must be submitted within 40 working days by contacting the Data Protection Team.

Thank you for contacting Yorkshire Water.

Yours sincerely,

Data Protection Team

Email: EIR@Yorkshirewater.co.uk