
OUR ENVIRONMENTAL PERFORMANCE EXPLAINED



NORTHUMBRIAN
WATER *living water*

As a company, we are passionate about the environment. We have a strong track record protecting and enhancing our environment and are known to be leaders in this area.

Our own stretching targets include having zero pollutions relating to our assets by 2025 and, while we have already achieved the reduction in pollution numbers expected of the industry, our zero pollutions goal drives us to always strive for improvement.

We have also set ourselves a target of reaching carbon net zero emissions by 2027 and we are already more than 90% of the way there, compared with our position in 2009.

Our Environmental Performance



Our Environmental Performance Assessment (EPA) Rating

Our 2022 EPA performance saw us rated Three Stars, which represents a 'Good' status. This year the measures have further tightened, so although our overall rating has moved to 'Good' Three Stars (from the previous Four Stars we achieved in 2020 and in 2021) we have actually improved our performance across all metrics measured, and have maintained those where we were already achieving the highest marks possible.

It shows that the hard work of our teams continues to improve our environmental performance and we are focused on attaining good or leading status going forward to continue to meet tightening standards and higher expectations.

The Road to Net Zero Carbon

- We are committed to achieving net zero emissions in 2027 and are already more than 90% there;
 - Our carbon emissions have fallen from 250,000 tonnes in 2010 to just 23,437 tonnes in 2022;
 - Our emissions reporting has achieved ISO14064-1 accreditation – demonstrating accurate and transparent reporting;
 - We continue to be the only water company to use 100% of our sewage sludge to produce clean energy through advanced anaerobic digestion at our green power stations across the north east; and
 - We plan to develop renewable energy generators at treatment works across the north east and south east to aid the transition to net zero, with six new solar arrays being installed and commissioned in 2022/23.
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Performance in EPA

Better than target

Slightly worse than target

Significantly worse than target

Metric	Performance	Green, Amber, Red
Total pollution incidents per 10,000km ² (actual)	20 (sector average 31)	Green
Serious pollution incidents (actual)	0 (sector total 44)	Green
Self-reported pollution incidents (%)	91% (sector average 82%)	Green
Discharge permit compliance (%) (failing sites)	98.9% (sector average 99%)	Amber
WINEP scheme delivery (%)	100%	Green
Supply Demand Balance Index (SDBI) score	100	Green
