WSAS STEWARDSHIP ASSURANCE SERVICES

Alliance for Water Stewardship (AWS)

Audit Number: AO-001616

SITE DETAILS

Site: Abbott Spain - Granada

Address: CAMINO DE PURCHIL 68, 18004, Granada, SPAIN

Contact Person: Maria Luisa Montealegre AWS Reference Number: AWS-000445

Site Structure: Single Site

CERTIFICATION DETAILS

Certification status: Certified Core

Date of certification decision: 2025-Sep-22

Validity of certificate: 2028-Sep-21

AUDIT DETAILS

Audited Service(s): AWS Standard v2.0 (2019)

Audit Type(s): Re-Certification Audit

Audit Start Date: 2025-Jul-15 Audit End Date: 2025-Jul-17 Lead Auditor: Ina Ballik

Site Participants:

Ana Sáez Burguete, EHS Manager

José Carlos Arcos Campillo, External Consultant

Rubén Arcos, Production Manager

Elena Eisman Hidalgo, Plant Controller

Fátima Vieña Martinez, HR

Fabio Navarro Fuentes, QA Director

Amparo Ruano Torres, EHS, OPEX, M&P Manager

Juan Antonio Polaina, Senior Associate Research Fellow

Alberto Suárez Cruz, Plant Manager

Luisa Montealegre, Regional EHS Manager

Héctor López, Leader front Line Management

Íñigo Sánchez, Manufacturing Process Engineer

José Maria Moya, Operational Technology Engineer

Fermín Jimenez, QA Laboratory Technician



Alliance for Water Stewardship (AWS)

Audit Number: AO-001616

AUDIT TIMES

Dates	Audit from	Duration	Auditor	Description
2025-Jul-15	08:45:00 - 17:45:00	09:00	Ina Ballik	
2025-Jul-16	08:00:00 - 16:15:00	08:15	Ina Ballik	
2025-Jul-17	09:00:00 - 17:15:00	08:15	Ina Ballik	

ADDITIONAL INFO

Summary of Audit Findings: During this recertification audit, two (2) non-conformities and three (3) observations were raised.

The Client is requested to submit a root cause analysis and corrective actions for each of the non-conformities within 7 days of receipt of the audit report, by 01 September 2025.

The non-conformities must be closed within 90 days of the end of the audit, by 16 October 2025. In order to meet this timeline evidence is to be submitted to WSAS (within 75 days) by 01 October 2025.

The audit team recommends re-certification of Abbott Laboratories S.A. Granada at Core level, once the non-conformities has been closed.

Scope of Assessment: The scope of services covers the recertification audit for assessing conformity of Abbott Laboratories S.A. Granada against the AWS International Water Stewardship Standard Version 2.

The audit was conducted onsite from 15-17 July 2025 and remotely/virtually (external stakeholder interviews) on the 08 July 2025.

The onsite site visit included the assessment of the site's groundwater well, the pre-treatment facility housing descaling, RO and partially the newly installed filter units to reduce tetrachloroethylene (PCE or PERC). The site tour also included the site's fire water pump house, the cooling towers, the hazardous and non-hazardous waste storage areas, the rainwater and stormwater-related infrastructure incl. the 'Acequia Gorda', the site's effluent-related infrastructure including the new effluent quality test cabinets, the raw material docking stations, and the newly build compound for the new diesel-driven generators for business continuity.

FINDINGS

Non-Conformity1Observation3Non-Conformity1



Alliance for Water Stewardship (AWS)

Audit Number: AO-001616

FINDING DETAILS

Finding No: TNR-018860
Checklist Item No: Annoucement

Status: Closed

Finding level: Non-Conformity

Due date: 2025-Oct-16

Checklist item: At least eight (8) weeks before the start date of the initial certification

audit or the re-evaluation audit, AWS will publish on its website the dates of the assessment of the site(s) with the intention to pursue AWS (Re-)Certification. Stakeholder submissions are accepted from this date

and during the entire period of validity of the AWS Certificate. Submissions, comments and/or feedback received by AWS will be shared with the CAB so the audit team may use the information for their

investigations during the next audit.

The site(s) seeking certification shall complete the Stakeholder Announcement Form found on the AWS website, and release it in at least two outlets: published in local language(s) on the site's website(s) and in a local media outlet (if applicable, economical, practical, and available) that is appropriate for the site and the related stakeholders

(for example, local newspaper, radio, or websites).

Findings: The site did not publish a stakeholder announcement in the local

language in at least two outlets.

Corrective action: The following actions are proposed:

1.- Each year, the EHS department will receive a notification informing them of the need to announce the audit 8 weeks in advance, using the Maximo preventive maintenance program. Due date: 09/30/2025 2.- Although the audit has already been conducted, a notice will be published on the Abbott Spain website so that the stakeholders are aware that the audit took place on July 15, 16, and 17, and that we are

available should they require any further information. Due date:

09/30/2025

Evidence of implementation: The site has set up an annual alert three months before the audit to

issue an external communication. The name of this tool is known

"Maximo Program"

It has also communicated the audit carried out in July 2025 on the

Abbott Spain website.



Alliance for Water Stewardship (AWS)

Audit Number: AO-001616

Finding No: TNR-018797

Checklist Item No: 1.7.1
Status: Closed

Finding level: Non-Conformity

Due date: 2025-Oct-16

Checklist item: Water risks faced by the site shall be identified, and prioritized, including

likelihood and severity of impact within a given timeframe, potential

costs and business impact.

Findings: The site has not included potential costs and business impact for the

Water risks identified.

Corrective action: It is proposed to:

1. Add two additional columns to the AWS Risk and Opportunity Assessment file, one for "Potential Costs" and another for "Business

Impact". Due date: 09/30/2025

2. Populate these columns for the existing risks included in the 2025

Assessment." Due date: 09/30/2025

Evidence of implementation: The site has updated the water management risk assessment by adding

two new columns: business impact and economic cost.

Finding No: TNR-018899

Checklist Item No: 2.3.2 Status: Open

Finding level: Observation

Checklist item: A water stewardship plan shall be identified, including for each target:

- How it will be measured and monitored

- Actions to achieve and maintain (or exceed) it

Planned timeframes to achieve itFinancial budgets allocated for actions

Positions of persons responsible for actions and achieving targetsWhere available, note the link between each target and the

achievement of best practice to help address shared water challenges

and the AWS outcomes.

Findings: The site's WSP is "action focused" rather than "target focused", which

isn't meeting the intend of the AWS standard.

Finding No: TNR-018833

Checklist Item No: 3.3.2 Status: Open

Finding level: Observation

Checklist item: Where water scarcity is a shared water challenge, annual targets to

improve the site's water use efficiency, or if practical and applicable,

reduce volumetric total use shall be implemented.

Findings: The site's water use efficiency target is currently based solely on

reducing total volumetric water use (m3/yr), which doesn't allow as much flexibility in terms of business expansion (or decline) as ratio-based

target (e.g. liters water/kg product) would allow for.

WSAS



Alliance for Water Stewardship (AWS)

Audit Number: AO-001616

Finding No: TNR-018838

Checklist Item No: 3.5.1 Status: Open

Finding level: Observation

Checklist item: Practices set in the water stewardship plan to maintain and/or enhance

the site's Important Water-Related Areas shall be implemented.

Findings: Whilst the site successfully contributed to the enhancement of an IWRA

from 2022 to 2024 (handed over to CHG in 2025), it was confirmed that there is no practical 'on the ground' implementation to maintain or improve an IWRA ongoing for 2025. Whilst one new opportunity has been identified in 2024, the project partners have not yet been able to advance this collaborative project to implementation stage and no other opportunity has been identified; i.e., there is no pipeline of potential

activities to maintain and improve IWRAs.



Alliance for Water Stewardship (AWS)

Audit Number: AO-001616

Report Details	
Report	Value
Report prepared by	Ina Ballik
Report approved by	Juan Carlos Ceron

20-08-2025

Surveillance

Proposed date for next audit

Report approved on (Date)

2026-Jun-09

Stakeholder Announcements

Finding No: TNR-018860

Comment The site did not publish an stakeholder announcement prior this re-certification.

Catchment Information

Catchment Information



Alliance for Water Stewardship (AWS)

Audit Number: AO-001616

The Abbott Laboratories site in Granada, Spain, is located within the Guadalquivir River Basin. The city of Granada itself lies within the Granada Basin (Depresión de Granada), which is an intramontane basin. The main river flowing through Granada, the River Genil, is a major tributary of the Guadalquivir River. Therefore, the site in Granada is within the sub-catchment of the Genil River, which in turn belongs to the larger Guadalquivir River Basin District (Demarcación Hidrográfica del Guadalquivir).

The Granada Basin (Depresión de Granada), where the site is located, is a complex geological and hydrological area. The relevant groundwater aquifers are primarily associated with the Quaternary alluvial deposits and the underlying Neogene sediments. Relevant groundwater layers are:

- 1. Upper Layer / Phreatic Aquifer (Unconfined Aquifer): corresponding to the shallowest groundwater, found within the most recent alluvial deposits (sands, gravels, silts) of the Genil River and its tributaries, particularly in the river plain areas.

 Main Features:
- Unconfined (Phreatic): The water table is the upper surface of the aquifer, and it's directly exposed to the atmosphere through the permeable overlying material.
- Shallow Depth: The groundwater table can be relatively shallow, making it easily accessible.
- High Permeability: The gravel and sand layers often have good hydraulic conductivity, allowing for relatively rapid groundwater flow.
- Direct Recharge: It's primarily recharged directly by infiltration of rainfall, irrigation return flows, and seepage from the Genil River itself.
- Vulnerable to Contamination: Due to its shallow nature and direct connection to the surface, this aquifer is more susceptible to contamination from agricultural activities, urban runoff, and industrial spills.
- Significance: Historically and currently, this is a very important aquifer for irrigation and often for local industrial use if the water quality is suitable.
- 2. Deeper Aquifers (Confined or Semi-Confined): Beneath the Quaternary alluvial deposits and within the broader Neogene sediments (Miocene-Pliocene formations), there are deeper, often more extensive, aquifers. These layers are composed of various materials, including conglomerates, sandstones, marls, and clays. The degree of confinement depends on the interbedded layers of less permeable materials (like clays or marls). Main Features:
- Confined or Semi-Confined: These aquifers are typically overlain by less permeable or impermeable layers (aquitards or aquicludes) such as clays or marls. This means the water within them is under pressure (artesian conditions may exist).
- Greater Depth: Accessing these aquifers requires deeper wells.
- Less Vulnerable to Surface Contamination: The overlying impermeable layers offer a degree of protection from direct surface contamination.
- More Stable Temperature and Quality: Water from these deeper layers tends to have more stable temperature and often better initial quality compared to the shallow phreatic aquifer.

The primary water service provider for general potable water supply is EMASAGRA (Empresa Municipal de Abastecimiento y Saneamiento de Granada). EMASAGRA is the municipal mixed-economy company responsible for the integrated water cycle (drinking water supply, sewage, and wastewater treatment) for the city of Granada and several surrounding municipalities.

Catchment Features: Guadiana River Basin (Genil River Sub-Catchment)

1. Water Shortage (Water Stress):

The Guadalquivir River Basin is historically and significantly prone to water scarcity and drought. It is one of the most water-stressed basins in Spain and, indeed, in Europe, due to several factor such as:

- the Mediterranean Climate with long, hot, and dry summers with highly variable and often insufficient rainfall.
- high Water Demand: Intensive agriculture and growing urban populations place immense pressure on water resources.
- Climate Change: Projected climate change impacts, including increased temperatures and

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Alliance for Water Stewardship (AWS)

Audit Number: AO-001616

reduced precipitation, are expected to exacerbate water stress and increase drought frequency and intensity.

- over-exploitation of Aquifers: Many aquifers within the basin, including some in the Granada region, have historically suffered from over-extraction.

2. Areas Prone to Flooding:

While often experiencing droughts, many areas within the Guadalquivir Basin, including sections along the Genil River, are indeed prone to flooding, including:

- Flash Floods: Mediterranean climates are characterized by irregular but often intense rainfall events, particularly in autumn, which can lead to rapid and severe flash floods in river courses and urban areas, especially in the lower reaches or where riverbeds are constricted;
- Urban Flooding: Granada itself, with the Genil and Darro rivers flowing through it, has experienced historical flooding. Urban development on floodplains and inadequate drainage systems can worsen the impact of heavy rainfall; and
- River Overflows: During prolonged or intense wet periods, reservoirs can reach capacity, leading to controlled or uncontrolled releases that increase downstream flood risk.

3. Environmentally Protected Areas:

The Guadalquivir Basin contains numerous and significant environmentally protected areas, highlighting its rich biodiversity but also the need for conservation. E.g.:

- Natural Parks and National Parks: The most prominent is the Doñana National Park, a UNESCO World Heritage site and Biosphere Reserve, located at the river's mouth, which is highly dependent on the river's water flow. Other protected areas include the Sierra Nevada National Park (a major water source for the Genil River), Sierra de Cazorla, Segura y Las Villas Natural Park, and Sierra de Aracena y Picos de Aroche Natural Park.
- Natura 2000 Network: Large portions of the basin are designated as Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) and Special Protection Areas (SPAs) under the EU's Natura 2000 network, protecting habitats and species (e.g., Iberian lynx, various bird species).
- Ramsar Sites: Several wetlands in the basin are designated as Wetlands of International Importance under the Ramsar Convention.

4. Inter-Basin Transfers:

There are significant inter-basin transfers that affect the Guadalquivir Basin. The most notable is the Negratín-Almanzora transfer (water Inflow), which brings water from the Guadiana Minor (a tributary of the Guadalquivir) to the Almanzora river basin (Mediterranean side) in Almería. There also have been historical debates and proposals for various transfer schemes within Spain, particularly between the Tagus and Segura basins, which indirectly influence water management approaches and political decisions regarding water scarcity across the country.

Within the Guadalquivir basin itself, there are internal transfers between sub-basins. Whilst there are no major direct transfer into the Guadalquivir from other large basins, there are transfers out of its tributaries, which impact its overall water balance. E.g. approximately 30 hm3/year of surface water is diverted from the Bermejales reservoir and and works to channel water from the Colomera reservoir for irrigation in the Vega de Granada catchment are still ongoing. Emergency urban supply works, as a response to the severe 2022 drought have been completed in 2023 in what is known as the "Colomera-Cubillas system."

5. Climate:

The climate of the Guadalquivir Basin and the Genil River sub-catchment is a classic Mediterranean Climate (Csa/Csb), characterized by hot, very dry summers with long periods of drought with high temperatures, and mild, wet winters with most of the precipitation occurs during the cooler months, often with highly variable rainfall patterns. There are semi-arid tendencies especially in the lower and central plains of the basin. The climate exhibits strong semi-arid characteristics due to high evapotranspiration rates and insufficient annual rainfall, leading to chronic water deficits.

6. Dominant Water Uses:

The drainage basin is overwhelmingly dominated by intensive agriculture. Agriculture is the dominant use / by far the largest water consumer in the basin, primarily for irrigated crops.

WSAS



Alliance for Water Stewardship (AWS)

Audit Number: AO-001616

Key crops include olives, citrus fruits, cotton, rice, and various horticultural products. The region is a major agricultural producer in Spain. Other uses are urban and industrial use, but they represent a smaller percentage of the total water demand compared to agriculture. There is also some Hydroelectric Power use; i.e. the basin has numerous reservoirs that are used for hydroelectric power generation, but this is a non-consumptive use of water. Lastly, as part of the natural hydrological cycle significant forest areas should be mentioned, particularly in the mountainous headwaters (like Sierra Nevada). Whilst they consume direct water, the water abstraction from these areas is limited compared to agricultural withdrawals from the main rivers and aquifers.

The Abbott site in Granada operates within a highly complex and stressed water environment characterized by chronic water scarcity, intermittent flood risks, high ecological value in protected areas, and a dominant agricultural demand on its water resources. This context underscores the importance of efficient water management for any industrial operation in the region.



Guadalquivir basin & site location.jpg



Aquifer Vega de Granada.jpg



Guadalquivir basin limit.jpg

Comment

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Alliance for Water Stewardship (AWS)

Audit Number: AO-001616

Client Description and Site Details

Client/Site Background

Site location:

The Abbott Laboratories site is located in Spain, within the autonomous community of Andalusia, in the city of Granada.

The site is located within the Parque Tecnológico de la Salud de Granada (Granada Health Technology Park); i.e. it is situated in an industrial setting, specifically within a planned area dedicated to technology, research, and healthcare-related businesses. It is a centre of excellence for nutrition products, specifically producing powdered infant formulas such as Similac Total Comfort (for sensitive stomachs), Similac NeoSure (for premature and low birthweight infants), Pediasure (pediatric nutrition), Ensure (adult nutrition), Glucerna (nutrition for patients with diabetes), and Prosure (nutrition for patients with cancer). The facility produces a wide portfolio of other powder products for infants and adults.

Water-related infrastructure:

- 1. Water sources on site: the site uses predominantly well water, extracted from the aquifer. Very infrequently and in low quantity, the site uses water provided by its neighbour (treated and hard water, 3.5% usage only in 2024)
- 2. Water treatment facilities: the site deploys water softening and reverse osmosis (RO) for their pre-treatment, and in 2025 additional activated carbon filters were installed to address a new PERC 'issue' (see indicators 1.3.4 and 3.4.1)
- 3. Water use for production: Production Processes: Water is a critical component in the manufacturing of these nutritional products, used in various stages such as mixing ingredients, cleaning, and sanitization.
- 4. Water use in energy facilities: As a typical manufacturing facility, the site uses water in a boiler for steam generation (for heating, sterilization, or process power) and in the site's three (3) cooling towers for temperature regulation of equipment and processes. These uses are integral to maintaining the controlled environment and operational efficiency required for pharmaceutical and nutritional product manufacturing.
- 5. Wastewater treatment facilities: N/A, effluent discharged into shared infrastructure, i.e., neighbour's effluent canal, which leads to public WWTP
- 6. Cooling towers: there are three (3) cooling towers
- 7. Rainwater harvesting & 8. Stormwater management infrastructure: the site's rainwater/stormwater is collected via an infrastructure that discharges into the 'Acequia Gorda', a rainwater canal used by all organizations based in the Granada Health Technology Park, i.e. it is a shared infrastructure
- 9. Fire water: The entire site is equipped with a sprinkler system, fed by well water 10. Any other: there are three (3) bunded areas on site to prevent or limit spillage contaminating rainwater/stormwater, and there is a new underground hydrocarbon separator and overflow tank next to the two generator sets, as well as an underground tank connected to the new hazardous waste store.

Short description of the site: The site consists of three main buildings: production, R&D building, and the office tract. Auxiliary buildings include the pre-treatment of the incoming water, the hazardous and non-hazardous waste stores, the boiler house, fire water house, cooling towers, docking bays and primary product delivery zones as well as personnel car parking areas. There are currently 306 employees, and 21 interns, as well as the following on-site contractors: Security (5) and catering (3).



Alliance for Water Stewardship (AWS)

Audit Number: AO-001616



Site.jpg

Summary of Shared Water Challenges

Summary of Shared Water Challenges

- 1. Declining water table
- 2. IWRA restoration Genil River at its confluence with the Beiro River
- 3. IWRA regeneration creating a green corridor at the right bank of the Beiro River
- 4. Improved emergency preparedness
- 5. Improvement of drinking water supply and wastewater disposal facilities
- 6. Groundwater contamination by nitrates from the use of fertilizers in agriculture
- 7. Feasibility Study, evaluating the potential use of tertiary treatments / reuse of treated water in urban and industrial WWTP
- 8. New contaminants in the Vega de Granada catchment
- 9. Dissemination of information on the Water Institute's work
- 10. Diverting waste/by-product (e.g. non-conforming product) from WW stream and reuse for renewable energy generation

Comment Please see summary table of top 10 SWCs in chapter 8.1 of the site's AWS Manual.



Alliance for Water Stewardship (AWS)

Audit Number: AO-001616

STEP 1: GATHER AND UNDERSTAND

1.1 Gather information to define the site's physical scope for water stewardship purposes, including: its operational boundaries; the water sources from which the site draws; the locations to which the site returns its discharges; and the catchment(s) that the site affect(s) and upon which it is reliant.

1.1.1 The physical scope of the site shall be mapped, considering the regulatory landscape and zone of stakeholder interests, including:



- Site boundaries;
- Water-related infrastructure, including piping network, owned or managed by the site or its parent organization;
- Any water sources providing water to the site that are owned or managed by the site or its parent organization;
- Water service provider (if applicable) and its ultimate water source:
- Discharge points and waste water service provider (if applicable) and ultimate receiving water body or bodies;
- Catchment(s) that the site affect(s) and is reliant upon for water.

Comment

Site boundaries / physical scope s mapped in chapter 3.1 in the manual.

Water-related infrastructure for the site's rainwater system is mapped, and flows into an adjacent ditch, adjacent to the site.

There are three water sources providing water to the site, a groundwater well and untreated as well was treated water from their neighbour. The site's well is mapped in an AutoCAD drawing < Diagram de flujos Saneamiento general>, the untreated and treated water infrastructure is mapped in AutoCAD drawing < Plano Abastecimiento Agua>.

The site installed two new generator units with a 10,000liter Diesel tank each, as part of their business continuity plan. A new hydrocarbon separator (940l) and emergency containment (3000l). The validation of this project is planned for August, the units are not commissioned yet. The final infrastructure is not yet mapped.

- 1.2 Understand relevant stakeholders, their water related challenges, and the site's ability to influence beyond its boundaries.
- **1.2.1** Stakeholders and their water-related challenges shall be identified. The process used for stakeholder identification shall be identified. This process shall:



- Inclusively cover all relevant stakeholder groups including vulnerable, women, minority, and Indigenous people;
- Consider the physical scope identified, including stakeholders, representative of the site's ultimate water source and ultimate receiving water body or bodies;
- Provide evidence of stakeholder consultation on water-related interests and challenges;
- Note that the ability and/or willingness of stakeholders to participate may vary across the relevant stakeholder groups;
- Identify the degree of stakeholder engagement based on their level of interest and influence.



Alliance for Water Stewardship (AWS)

Audit Number: AO-001616

Comment

The site created a database, showing the following information for each identified stakeholder: name of the stakeholder, which group the stakeholder belongs to (Public Administration, Suppliers, Associations, etc.), contact information, characteristics, i.e., if the stakeholder is external or internal to Abbott, if they use water indirectly or not, if they are located in the same basin as Abbott, and the collaboration level (i.e. the type of communication to be maintained with the stakeholder is established, as well as whether joint actions have been proposed with them or not). There are no distinct groups within mainland Spain that are typically identified and officially recognized as "Indigenous peoples".

For suppliers, the site also considered the type of product or service they provide, which serves as input for the site's assessment on indirect water use for indicators in 1.4 of the Standard.

For evidence of stakeholder consultation on water-related interests and challenges please refer to indicators 3.7.2, 3.8.1. and 4.3.1.

1.2.2 Current and potential degree of influence between site and stakeholder shall be identified, within the catchment and considering the site's ultimate water source and ultimate receiving water body for wastewater.



Comment

Based on the database (see indicator 1.2.1), the site assessed each stakeholder based on two criteria:

- 1. Abbott's influence over them, and
- 2. the impact or interest the stakeholder may have on Sustainable Water Management. The Impact scale is from 1 to 10, with 1 being considered for a stakeholder whose own or joint actions to improve Sustainable Water Management have very little relevance, and 10 for those whose actions have very significant relevance.

The influence scale is also from 1 to 10, with 1 being considered for those stakeholders over whom Abbott has no influence and 10 for those over whom it has very significant influence.

In accordance with the process described in chapter 4.2.1 of the AWS Manual, stakeholders are then categorized into three groups, depending on the quadrant in which they are located, as follows:

- Type 1 Stakeholders (Engage): Those with the greatest potential for impact and influence, with both values at or above 5 points and located in the red quadrant.
- Type 2 Stakeholders (Satisfy) or (Inform): Those with the potential for impact or influence at or above 5 points, and the other value below 5, located in the orange or green quadrants.
- Type 3 Stakeholders (Monitor): Those with the least potential for impact and influence, with both values below 5 points and located in the blue quadrant.
- 1.3 Gather water-related data for the site, including: water balance; water quality, Important Water-Related Areas, water governance, WASH; water-related costs, revenues, and shared value creation.
- **1.3.1** Existing water-related incident response plans shall be identified.



Comment

Water-related incident response plans are part of the wider management system documentation, i.e. the SOP 'Manual de Autoprotección - Abbott Granada 2024'. This manual identifies two specific water-related scenarios:

- 1. Chemical spill: distinguishing between small and large spills, depending on the substance;
- 2. Flooding: although low risk (the small Beiro river is still 1-2km away from the site). The response plans were recently tested in a real case scenario, during cut-off low-pressure system 'DANA', during which the site received regular updates and recommendations from the city council, and was in frequent communication with their neighbours and the local fire brigade (email communications reviewed on site). Internal instructions were tailored accordingly.
- **1.3.2** Site water balance, including inflows, losses, storage, and outflows shall be identified and mapped



WSAS



Alliance for Water Stewardship (AWS)

Audit Number: AO-001616

Comment

The water inflow is mapped in the diagram in chapter 5..1.1a of the manual. The storage is mapped across the three different maps (a,b,c) in chapter 5.1.1 and the outflow is mapped in 5.1.1 d

Losses are quantified in the table in chapter 5.1.5 in the site's AWS manual. Please refer to 1.3.3 for more detail.

1.3.3

Site water balance, inflows, losses, storage, and outflows, including indication of annual variance in water usage rates, shall be quantified. Where there is a water-related challenge that would be a threat to good water balance for people or environment, an indication of annual high and low variances shall be quantified.



Comment

It must be noted that the site has had a few changes in their metering system in the past decade, which impacted data accuracy and comparability year on year:

- 2013-2023 the site used EFT Analytics,
- 2023 2024 the site used Power BI, and
- from Sep 2024 onwards they are using EM3 program.

Some parts of the 2024 data for the site water balance is therefore still slightly compromised (i.e. less accurate data) as they just changed to the system change during Q3 and the metering system is still being fully set up and 'fine-tuned'.

Generally, the site produces a water balance twice a year (Jan and July).

Whilst the determination of the annual water balance for 2024, conduced in Jan 2025, still shows a 'loss rate' of 8.54% (i.e. unmetered; the site's total consumption in 2024 was 331,275 m3, of which 91.46% was metered), the exercise was repeated in Jul 2025 and the overall non-metered data decreasing from > 8% to < 4%, which demonstrates that the new metering program is nearing completion in terms of meters connected, and that the system is potentially obtaining more reliable/accurate data. However, further improvements are ongoing in this respect, as the previous years' water balance resulted in losses around 0.5% only. That is to say, the percentage of un-metered data, referred to as "losses" in the 2024 water balance, is most likely to decrease as the system 'matures'.

The single largest water consumption with over 40% is the CIP process, for which the site has identified several improvement initiatives, ongoing in 2025.

It is recommended to revisit this aspect during the next Surveillance audit to gain further clarity on the potential effect that the new metering system is having on future annual site water balances.

1.3.4

Water quality of the site's water source(s), provided waters, effluent and receiving water bodies shall be quantified. Where there is a water-related challenge that would be a threat to good water quality status for people or environment, an indication of annual, and where appropriate, seasonal, high and low variances shall be quantified.





Alliance for Water Stewardship (AWS)

Audit Number: AO-001616

Comment

Water quality of the site's water sources:

The site tests the incoming water i.e. well water and water provided by their neighbour regularly in their on-site laboratory and also has is tested externally by Eurofins, a global leader in laboratory testing services.

- Well water:

In accordance with legislation the site conducts a full quality analysis of the incoming well water every 6 months. The most recent test report, dated 22 May 2025, was reviewed on site and, as the site has mentioned on day 1 during the site tour, the slight Tetrachloroethene exceedance is highlighted in this report with remark from Eurofins. It must be noted that the PERC issues were not existing anymore after the site's RO treatment. Regardless, the site has already implemented their improvement actions in this regard, please see indicator 3.4.1. The presence of 'new contaminants' in the aquifer is also addressed in indicator 1.5.4 as has been identified as SWC.

Internally, the site's QA laboratory conducts daily tests for colour, smell, taste, chlorine, turbidity, and pH. Incoming water from their neighbour, which is used very infrequently i.e. consumption from this source is very low compared to well water (accounting for only 3.5% of the total in 2024) is fully assessed once a year.

Water quality of the site's effluent:

The site discharges their effluent into a pipeline that merges into their neighbour's effluent pipeline at the site boundary (shared infrastructure). The comingled effluent i.e., the site's and their neighbour's, then leads to the public WWTP. The typical quantitative flow to the WWTP (in m3) split 20: 80, site: neighbour. The site's effluent is tested monthly, by the same external accredited laboratory (Eurofins). The most recent test report, dated 17 July 2025, was reviewed on site. Key parameters tested for are: oils and fats, BSB5, COD, pH, SS. No remarks. There are no seasonal variances as confirmed by the QA Laboratory Technician. As for the agreement that the site holds with their neighbour, an upper limit for BSB5 is set i.e., 1500 mg/l. Please refer to indicator 4.2.1 for details of the incident that occurred at the public WWTP, due to an exceedance of that parameter.

1.3.5 Potential sources of pollution shall be identified and if applicable, mapped, including chemicals used or stored on site.



Comment

Potential sources of pollution shall be identified and if applicable, mapped, including chemicals used or stored on site.

The site has mapped the locations with the potential water-related pollution sources on site in the site plan "Plano general de instalaciones". It was last updated in July 2022. The plan is used for different purposes; therefore the site uses colour coding with blue relating to AWS i.e. water-related pollution sources, and red being relevant for fires on site (and hence out of scope of this audit).

The site built a new hazardous waste storage that is connected to an underground sump, and installed two new diesel generators (10,000l capacity each) including a new hydrocarbon separator, bunded area and manholes in 2025.

The site plan should be reviewed during the next surveillance audit to confirm that these new potential water-related pollution sources were added i.e. that the plan was updated.

1.3.6 On-site Important Water-Related Areas shall be identified and mapped, including a description of their status including Indigenous cultural values.



Comment

There are on-site IWRAs.

1.3.7 Annual water-related costs, revenues, and a description or quantification of the social, cultural, environmental, or economic water-related value generated by the site shall be identified and used to inform the evaluation of the plan in 4.1.2.



WSAS



Alliance for Water Stewardship (AWS)

Audit Number: AO-001616

Comment

Water-related costs are identified and documented in chapter 5.6 of the site's AWS manual, with water-related costs are broken down into categories and sub-categories in the table in the same chapter. The average water-related cost for the site was €3.90/m3 in 2024, with water treatment being the largest cost factor.

Income, savings and shared value creation are identified and documented in chapter 5.6.2 and chapter 11. The site considered water savings achieved by themselves or their stakeholders as potential revenues. For 2024, based on the same figure (€3.90/m3) the site determined a water-related revenue of over €50,000. Social, cultural, and environmental value creation is identified on a qualitative basis.

1.3.8 Levels of access and adequacy of WASH at the site shall be identified.



Comment

The site provides adequate WASH facilities for the number of employees in each building (production, R&D, and office); i.e.. 31 (male) and 14 (female), and one (1) barrier-free access bathroom.

1.4 Gather data on the site's indirect water use, including: its primary inputs; the water use embedded in the production of those primary inputs the status of the waters at the origin of the inputs (where they can be identified); and water used in out-sourced water-related services.

1.4.1 The embedded water use of primary inputs, including quantity, quality and level of water risk within the site's catchment, shall be identified.



Comment

The site identified all stakeholders that have an indirect water use in the same document as used in indicator 1.2.1. The information is available in column H of the excel file. A total of twelve (12) stakeholders were identified that contribute to the site's indirect water use, if which 7 contribute embedded water use of primary inputs, and 5 to embedded water use via packaging.

None of the site's suppliers have a significant input to the site's primary inputs. Reviewing a few examples during this re-certification audit, it was confirmed that the percentage of embedded water use of primary inputs is close to 0.01% for all of them.

1.4.2 The embedded water use of outsourced services shall be identified, and where those services originate within the site's catchment, quantified.



Comment

The is only one service provider within the catchment that is contributing to the site's indirect water use, the one that washes the site's industrial workwear. See 1.4.1 for more details.

1.5 Gather water-related data for the catchment, including water governance, water balance, water quality, Important Water-Related Areas, infrastructure, and WASH

1.5.1 Water governance initiatives shall be identified, including catchment plan(s), water-related public policies, major publicly-led initiatives under way, and relevant goals to help inform site of possible opportunities for water stewardship collective action.





Alliance for Water Stewardship (AWS)

Audit Number: AO-001616

Comment

The site gives a comprehensive summary of the governance framework in Spain in chapter 7.1. of their AWS Manual.

In summary, the current water governance framework involves numerous actors with jurisdiction over different aspects of water management and the provision of water services. The General Directorate of Water coordinates with the units of the sectoral ministries and within the framework of the National Water Council (CNA) and carries out its activities with the advice of the Center for Hydrographic Studies (CEH), the Center for Public Works Studies and Experimentation (CEDEX), universities, the Higher Center for Scientific Research (CSIC), and the Geological and Mining Institute of Spain (IGME).

For the execution of projects and works and the preparation of plans and programs, it relies on its own resources, such as TRAGSA, the public companies ACUAES and ACUAMED, and engineering, consulting, and construction companies (Ministry for the Transition and the Demographic Challenge 2020).

The relevant public sector entities for the site is the Guadalquivir Hydrographic Confederation (CHG), who is responsible for water management in the Guadalquivir river basin, where the site is located, and Granada Provincial Council, who is responsible of delivering the Integrated Urban Water Cycle (IUC) in the province of Granada. It is currently separated into three different sectors, with Sector I. Vega de Granada, being relevant for the site. The Vega de Granada Sector (Sector I) is made up of 41 municipalities that cover 56.85% of the provincial population (480,205 inhabitants). The urban water cycle management is carried out either through the respective municipal councils or through supra-municipal entities, and the delivery is currently assigned to two joint ventures:

- Empresa Municipal de Abastecimiento y Saneamiento de Granada, S.A. (EMASAGRA), and
- Aguas del Consorcio de Sierra Elvira.

The scope of work spans:

- · Water collection for the urban water cycle.
- Purification of drinking water.
- · Tap water quality.
- · Transportation and distribution.
- Supply to the population.
- Sewage treatment.
- Reuse.
- Purification.
- Return to the natural environment.

The site is collaborating with the aforementioned public sector entities on at least seven SWCs, listed in the table in chapter 8.1 of the AWS Manual.

1.5.2 Applicable water-related legal and regulatory requirements shall be identified, including legally-defined and/or stakeholder-verified customary water rights.



Comment

The site uses one of the leading online portals in Spain 'Ambientum', which is very closely linked with 'InfoSald', specializing in providing legislative databases and compliance tools. InfoSald offers extensive databases covering environmental laws and regulations at international, European Union, Spanish national, and regional (Autonomous Communities) levels as well as local City Council requirements.

Additionally the site has a long-standing agreement, signed in 2014, with the Irrigation Community of the Gorda del Genil Canal that clearly establishes the distribution of water at the locality, demonstrating that their water rights are respected (applicable to rainwater only). There are no legally-defined and/or stakeholder-verified customary water rights, which as verified by reviewing the agreement on site during the document review.

1.5.3 The catchment water-balance, and where applicable, scarcity, shall be quantified, including indication of annual, and where appropriate, seasonal, variance.



WSAS



Alliance for Water Stewardship (AWS)

Audit Number: AO-001616

Comment

Water scarcity, or the concern of seasonable depletion of the aquifer has been identified as a shared water challenge (SWC), see section 'Summary of Shared Water Challenges' of this report. It is estimated that 80% of the total water received by an area (precipitation) is returned to the atmosphere via evapotranspiration, i.e., the remaining 20% constitute surface and groundwater runoff.

The had been a change of administration 2022, which resulted, to a certain degree, loss of public access to previously available data on the river basin/catchment. What the site had been able to gather from historic data public sources is that the rainfall in the watershed is highly variable and the water reserves of the Alto Genil basin consequently exhibit strong seasonal variability too. This can include cyclical variations both interannual and seasonal. There are four large reservoirs that impact the water flow into the Vega de Granada catchment, i.e. Cubillas, Quéntar, Colomera, and Canales. The latter, due to its location and the amount of its regulated inputs, has great significance for the hydrological dynamics of the entire Vega de Granada water system. Whilst there are no major direct transfer into the Guadalquivir from other large basins, there are transfers out of its tributaries, which impact its overall water balance. E.g. approximately 30 hm3/year of surface water is diverted from the Bermejales reservoir and and works to channel water from the Colomera reservoir for irrigation in the Vega de Granada catchment are still ongoing.

The average monthly reserves (in Hm3) per reservoir in the Alto Genil basin are, apart from the Iznajar reservoire which doesn't have a direct impact on the site's catchment, scarce/very limited, as depicted in the diagram on page 74 of the AWS Manual.

Despite the overall basin's water stress, the site's assessment concludes that from a hydrogeological perspective, the Granada plain is in a relatively privileged location, as it is situated in one of the few areas that capture water in above-average quantities, such as the Sierra Nevada and the Alto Genil basin. The relationship between existing resources and water demand in the area is typically surplus for a year with average rainfall, except of the recurring dry cycles (years of low rainfall), where a clear deficit is generated in the water balance

A much more detailed assessment of the basin's water balance can be found in chapter 7.2 of the AWS Manual, which contains various maps (e.g. piezometric measurement locations), analytics (e.g. seasonality), and graphs / box plots (e.g. rainfall patterns, reservoir capacity).

1.5.4

Water quality, including physical, chemical, and biological status, of the catchment shall be identified, and where possible, quantified. Where there is a water-related challenge that would be a threat to good water quality status for people or environment, an indication of annual, and where appropriate, seasonal, high and low variances shall be identified.



Comment

Water quality has been identified as a shared water challenge (SWC), see section 'Summary of Shared Water Challenges' of this report.

The main threat to good water quality within the catchment/basin are the municipalities which are not connected to a public WWTP yet, groundwater contamination by nitrates from the use of fertilizers in agriculture, and the presence of 'new contaminants' in the aguifer.

According to the site's assessment, there are currently 16 urban wastewater treatment plants (WWTPs) in the upper Genil basin, and the site is working with CHG and the local government i.e., financed studies that highlight pathways to mediate this risk. The site is also collaborating with the university on the topic of new contaminants in the aquifer.

1.5.5

Important Water-Related Areas shall be identified, and where appropriate, mapped, and their status assessed including any threats to people or the natural environment, using scientific information and through stakeholder engagement.



Comment

The site identified two (2) IWRAs that are within the catchment. Those are documented in the Manual 5.4.

It was generally noted that the concept of Important Water-Related Areas (IWRAs) was not / is not interpreted or applied in the sense intended by AWS, which impacts on other indicators relating to IWRAs in the standard.

WSAS



Alliance for Water Stewardship (AWS)

Audit Number: AO-001616

1.5.6 Existing and planned water-related infrastructure shall be identified, including condition and potential exposure to extreme events.



Comment

The site is depending on shared infrastructure with its neighbour for its effluent and shared infrastructure with one of their key stakeholders for its rainwater/stormwater run-off. Those parts of the infrastructure that are directly adjacent to the site as included in their maintenance plans and the general status of the water-related infrastructure, once leaving the site, is well understood from continual communications since 2022.

Even extreme events such as caused by the cut-off low-pressure system DANA in Oct 2024 had limited direct impact on Granada and its immediate Vega catchment area, and the water-related infrastructure that the site depends on. It provided the site with the 'opportunity' to witness the functioning of their emergency preparedness and interaction with the public authorities who kept them updated via public alerts. None of the water-related infrastructure was at risk at any given point.

1.5.7 The adequacy of available WASH services within the catchment shall be identified.



Comment

No concerns regarding WASH services within the catchment could be identified. This corresponds to the information available on the WWF WRF, and Aquaduct (Untreated Connected Wastewater / Unimproved/No Drinking Water / Unimproved/No Sanitation)

Understand current and future shared water challenges in the catchment, by linking the water challenges identified by stakeholders with the site's water challenges.

1.6.1 Shared water challenges shall be identified and prioritized from the information gathered.



Comment

The site held several meetings with the most relevant stakeholders in recent years, where shared water-related challenges (SWCs) were discussed. A summary of SWCs is included in chapter 4.2.3 of the site's AWS Manual.

The prioritization of SWCs is described in chapter 8.1 of the site's AWS Manual, i.e. in consideration of majority of stakeholders having mentioned the same challenge and the site's ability to influence the implementation of actions/initiatives to address the SWCs. The SWCs that the site will address in a given calendar year can fluctuate, depending on the deliberations they have with their stakeholders.

The top priority at the moment, i.e., Priority 1, a SWC named by seven key stakeholders is the declining water table and reduced spring flow due to low rainfall and overexploitation of aquifers. There is a shared interest in optimizing and reducing water consumption, agreed upon by all. For a list of the top 10 prioritized SWCs, please refer to the section 'Summary of Shared Water Challenges' of this report.

1.6.2 Initiatives to address shared water challenges shall be identified.



Comment

The site addresses all of the identified SWCs in collaboration with their key stakeholders and the initiatives are clearly linked to the respective stakeholder(s) in the table in chapter 8.1 of the site's AWS manual. Three of the top ten initiatives are completed, and seven are ongoing.

1.7 Understand the site's water risks and opportunities: Assess and prioritize the water risks and opportunities affecting the site based upon the status of the site, existing risk management plans and/or the issues and future risk trends identified in 1.6.

1.7.1 Water risks faced by the site shall be identified, and prioritized, including likelihood and severity of impact within a given timeframe, potential costs and business impact.

Q Obs.

WSAS



Alliance for Water Stewardship (AWS)

Audit Number: AO-001616

Comment

Chapter 9 of the AWS Manual 'RIESGOS Y OPORTUNIDADES DEL AGUA DE LA ZONA' describes the site's procedure for prioritizing water risks in detail.

The site uses a simple 3 by 3 matrix, considering likelihood and severity, for the prioritization of risks with 9 being the highest and 1 being the lowest risk.

According to the scores, the site distinguishes between three different risk categories, low (1 or 2), medium (3 or 4) and high (6 or 9).

In accordance with the above, the site classified six (6) risks as high risks: one (1) risk identified at score 9:

- related to risk of pollution of superficial waters in the catchment i.e. due to wastewater discharges from municipalities without wastewater treatment plants; five (5) risk identified at score 6:
- Nitrate levels above the established limit at some monitoring points in the Vega de Granada Aquifer, due to fertilizers and other agricultural treatments;
- High water consumption required for the production process, especially for CIP cleaning;
- Channeling of the wastewater via shared infrastructure to the old public WWTP i.e. pipeline partially blocked and without sufficient manholes to allow for proper cleaning and maintenance;
- Presence of tetrachloroethene in well water.

In total 31 risks were identified in a register (excel sheet) 'EVALUACIÓN DE RIESGOS Y OPORTUNIDADES AWS', last updated in May 2025.

1.7.2 Water-related opportunities shall be identified, including how the site may participate, assessment and prioritization of potential savings, and business opportunities.



Comment

The site's identified opportunities are documented in the same register as the site's risks.

Please see indicator 1.7.1. In total 12 opportunities were identified.

1.8 Understand best practice towards achieving AWS outcomes:

Determining sectoral best practices having a local/catchment, regional,

or national relevance.

1.8.1 Relevant catchment best practice for water governance shall be identified.



Comment

All identified BPs are documented in the site's AWS Manual, chapter 12. The site identified eight (8) BPs related to water governance.

1.8.2 Relevant sector and/or catchment best practice for water balance (either through water efficiency or less total water use) shall be identified.



Comment

All identified BPs are documented in the site's AWS Manual, chapter 12. The site identified a total of nine (9) BPs related to achieving a sustainable water balance.

1.8.3 Relevant sector and/or catchment best practice for water quality shall be identified, including rationale for data source.



Comment

All identified BPs are documented in the site's AWS Manual, chapter 12. The site identified five (5) BPs for water quality.

1.8.4 Relevant catchment best practice for site maintenance of Important Water-Related Areas shall be identified.



Comment

All identified BPs are documented in the site's AWS Manual, chapter 12.

As highlighted in indicator 1.5.5, the concept of Important Water-Related Areas (IWRAs) was not / is not interpreted or applied in the sense intended by AWS, which has an impacts on this indicator.

The site has classified three (3) actions as IWRA BP, but upon review of the table in chapter 12, it was noted that two of the three actions/initiatives relate to achieving a 'sustainable water balance'. There is only IWRA related initiative identified for 2025.

WSAS



Alliance for Water Stewardship (AWS)

Audit Number: AO-001616

1.8.5 Relevant sector and/or catchment best practice for site provision of equitable and adequate WASH services shall be identified.



Comment

All identified BPs are documented in the site's AWS Manual, chapter 12. The site identified six (6) actions considered as BP related to WASH.



Alliance for Water Stewardship (AWS)

Audit Number: AO-001616

2 STEP 2: COMMIT & PLAN - Commit to be a responsible water steward and develop a Water Stewardship Plan

2.1 Commit to water stewardship by having the senior-most manager in charge of water at the site, or if necessary, a suitable individual within the organization head office, sign and publicly disclose a commitment to water stewardship, the implementation of the AWS Standard and achieving its five outcomes, and the allocation of required resources.

2.1.1 A signed and publicly disclosed site statement OR organizational document shall be identified. The statement or document shall include the following commitments:



- That the site will implement and disclose progress on water stewardship program(s) to achieve improvements in AWS water stewardship outcomes
- That the site implementation will be aligned to and in support of existing catchment sustainability plans
- That the site's stakeholders will be engaged in an open and transparent way
- That the site will allocate resources to implement the Standard.

Comment

The site has published their position statement in 'Access to Clean Water' and the Abbott Granada Commitment to Water stewardship statement on available on their website [https://www.abbott.com/content/dam/corp/abbott/en-us/documents/pdfs/transparency/AWS-G RANADA-MARCH-2022.pdf]. It does contain the four required commitments and it is signed by the plant manager in March 2022.

- **2.2** Develop and document a process to achieve and maintain legal and regulatory compliance.
- 2.2.1 The system to maintain compliance obligations for water and wastewater management shall be identified, including:
 Identification of responsible persons/positions within facility

organizational structure



- Process for submissions to regulatory agencies.

Comment

The site typically receives updates regarding new legal requirements four times a year as part of their service agreement with Ambientum/InfoSald (see indicator 1.5.2). The most recent email update from 18 June 2025 was reviewed on site.

Additionally, Abbott Group conducts a full legal compliance audit once a year, and the site's external consultancy 'Sostenia' evaluates the water-related requirements regularly. Their most recent report from 29 May 2025 was reviewed on site. The site highlighted examples of new requirements, and provided an evaluation of the current water-related obligations.

The site uses the Enterprise Asset Management (EAM) software 'IBM Maximo' from Abbott Group, which supports the site's compliance-related workflows such as submissions to regulatory agencies. The site's EHS Manager, who's responsible for sending the site's reports to the Guadalquivir Hydrographic Confederation [Confederación Hidrográfica del Guadalquivir (CHG)], receives monthly automated emails from Maximo. CHG receives monthly extraction rates, and an annual summary for the previous calendar year i.e., 2024 data has to be reported in Q1 2025.

The site's responsible persons/positions are identified in an organigram, depicted on page 17 of the site's AWS manual.

2.3 Create a water stewardship strategy and plan including addressing risks (to and from the site), shared catchment water challenges, and opportunities.

WSAS



Alliance for Water Stewardship (AWS)

Audit Number: AO-001616

2.3.1 A water stewardship strategy shall be identified that defines the

overarching mission, vision, and goals of the organization towards good

water stewardship in line with this AWS Standard.

Yes

Comment

The water stewardship strategy was aligned with Abbott Group last year, for 2024-2027. The strategy contains Abbott Group's overall mission, vision, and goals as well as water-related mission, vision and values like water reduction, pollution prevention, engagement, and education.

The water-related objectives are managed in the site's WSP.

2.3.2 A water stewardship plan shall be identified, including for each target:

Q Obs.

- How it will be measured and monitored
- Actions to achieve and maintain (or exceed) it
- Planned timeframes to achieve it
- Financial budgets allocated for actions
- Positions of persons responsible for actions and achieving targets
- Where available, note the link between each target and the achievement of best practice to help address shared water challenges and the AWS outcomes.

Comment

The site's WSP is kept in the same excel file since initial certification in 2022. It was noted that the Spanish standard does not accurately translate the meaning of the English standard in that it refers to Objective (in the Spanish Standard) and Target (in the English standard), which impacts how various aspects of the AWS implementation have been managed within the WSP. Objectives are broader, high-level statements that define a desired outcome or purpose and while they can be quantitative, they might not be as granularly measurable as targets. As they indicate a general direction of desired change or improvement, they are typically not concrete (Specific, Measurable, Time-bound etc.) and actionable, and do not provide precise benchmarks against which performance is measured.

The WSP contains objectives for each of the five main AWS outcomes, how those and respective actions will be monitored and/or measured. In light of the above though, the overall WSP is not "target focussed" but rather "action focussed". Please see the Observation raised in this indicator.

The WSP contains detailed information on:

- Planned timeframes to achieve/complete planned actions
- Financial budgets allocated for each action
- Positions of persons responsible for actions

The link between each action and the achievement of best practice is made in another document "MEJORES PRÁCTICAS GESTIÓN DEL AGUA ABBOTT GRANADA".

2.4 Demonstrate the site's responsiveness and resilience to respond to water risks

2.4.1 A plan to mitigate or adapt to identified water risks developed in co-ordination with relevant public-sector and infrastructure agencies shall be identified.

Yes

Comment

The site summarizes the risks in a document "Evaluación de riesgos y oportunidades AWS" which is linked to column H in the site's WSP.

The site had to change a discharge procedure for quality reject recently, and is still in the process of fine-tuing the new processes together with the relevant public-sector agency EMASAGRA (Empresa Municipal de Aguas de Granada (Municipal Water Company of Granada)) as a result of an incident at the public WWTP, demonstrating their rapid adaptive capacity to an identified water risks. For more details please see indicators 1.7.2 and 4.2.1.

WSAS



Alliance for Water Stewardship (AWS)

Audit Number: AO-001616

3	STEP 3: IMPLEMENT - Implement the site's stewardship plan and improve		
	impacts		

3.1 Implement plan to participate positively in catchment governance.

3.1.1 Evidence that the site has supported good catchment governance shall be identified.



Comment

The site has identified three initiatives relating to good catchment governance in their 2025 WSP:

1. Water extraction licence update / ungrade due by 2030:

The site has already started the process to renew their well license (currently limited to 500,000m3/year extraction of which 125,000m3 do not have to be returned to the aquifer). Together with the authorities, they're evaluating the potential increase in the licence to 600,000m3/year extraction and 200,000m3 that do not have to be returned to the aquifer. This timely process kick-off with the regulating authority can be considered as BP.

2. Water awareness / education sessions:

Water awareness sessions are conducted at all three tier levels on site and are fully integrated into the site's EHS program via employee-inclusive initiatives such as "Do you have an idea?" sessions, where each employee can voice and submit their ideas for water-related improvement actions. These sessions led to the successful identification of non-financial opportunities to Reduce Water Consumption at the Factory, contributing to contributing to the Yellow Belt and Green Belt Projects that are currently ongoing.

3. Improved external communication / communication with regulating agency:

Apart from the licensing renewal and upgrade, the site is working with CHG on improved / more frequent data exchange for e.g., water consumption data. This process is ongoing and was verified via email exchanges during the document review.

3.1.2 Measures identified to respect the water rights of others including Indigenous peoples, that are not part of 3.2 shall be implemented.



Comment

Not applicable, see indicator 1.5.2.

3.2 Implement system to comply with water-related legal and regulatory requirements and respect water rights.

3.2.1 A process to verify full legal and regulatory compliance shall be implemented.



Comment

The site typically receives updates regarding new legal requirements four times a year as part of their service agreement with Ambientum/InfoSald (see indicator 1.5.2). The most recent email update from 18 June 2025 was reviewed on site.

Additionally, Abbott Group conducts a full legal compliance audit once a year, and the site's external consultancy 'Sostenia' evaluates the water-related requirements regularly. Their most recent report from 29 May 2025 was reviewed on site. The site highlighted examples of new requirements, and provided an evaluation of the current water-related obligations.

The site uses the Enterprise Asset Management (EAM) software 'IBM Maximo' from Abbott Group, which supports the site's compliance-related workflows such as submissions to regulatory agencies. The site's EHS Manager, who's responsible for sending the site's reports to the Guadalquivir Hydrographic Confederation [Confederación Hidrográfica del Guadalquivir (CHG)], receives monthly automated emails from Maximo. CHG receives monthly extraction rates, and an annual summary for the previous calendar year i.e., 2024 data has to be reported in Q1 2025.

The site's responsible persons/positions are identified in an organigram, depicted on page 17 of the site's AWS manual.

WSAS



Alliance for Water Stewardship (AWS)

Audit Number: AO-001616

3.2.2 Where water rights are part of legal and regulatory requirements,

measures identified to respect the water rights of others including

Yes

Indigenous peoples, shall be implemented.

Not applicable. See indicators 1.5.2 and 3.1.2.

Implement plan to achieve site water balance targets. 3.3

3.3.1 Status of progress towards meeting water balance targets set in the

water stewardship plan shall be identified.



Comment

Comment

The status of progress for each of the site's actions is evaluated regularly (monthly) in AWS Team meetings and most recent updates are documented in the WSP. Please consider the general remark made in indicator 2.3.2.

Upon applying a filter for column E, one of the fice main AWS outcomes, there are 5 objectives set since 2022 (initial certification) that the site has set in relation to achieving a sustainable water balance, and corresponding actions are implemented and tracked:

- 1. Minimise indirect water use (liters/kg industrial workwear. Washed by external service provider) Last progress update 09/05/2025.
- 2. CIP 150,000 m3/year reduction analysis ongoing as this requires in-depth technical studies and significant investments. Last progress update 09/05/2025.
- 3. Quick Win (KAIZEN) for CIP optimization work in progress/ongoing. Last progress update 09/05/2025.
- 4. Project "Yellow belt": Cooling Systems Upgrade project is scheduled for 2025 in two stages (testing during May 2025 and full execution in August, during the plant shutdown). Last progress update 09/05/2025.
- 5. Change of cleaning sequence (saving 112m3/year) Actions to be developed for the summer shutdown. Earliest evaluation will be in Sep 2025 as the change in programming will be conducted during the shutdown in August.
- 3.3.2 Where water scarcity is a shared water challenge, annual targets to

improve the site's water use efficiency, or if practical and applicable,

Q Obs.

reduce volumetric total use shall be implemented.

Water scarcity is an identified SWC. Comment

> The site's water roadmap uses the year 2023 as a baseline against which performance will be measured. The reduction targets set in the roadmap are:

- 3.2% for 2024.
- 2.3% for 2025, and
- 1.6% for 2026.

The site is monitoring their water consumption in cubic meters (m3) and are using both pound (lb) and kilogram (kg) for their final product. Please refer to the Observation raised in this indicator, highlighting the potential benefit of the site adopting an efficiency ratio as opposed to using total volumetric targets and/or percentage of water reduction to monitor progress to address the SWC.

3.3.3 Legally-binding documentation, if applicable, for the re-allocation of water to social, cultural or environmental needs shall be identified.



Comment

Not applicable. There are no legally binding re-allocations of water to social, cultural or environmental needs established in the agreement with the Irrigation Community of the Gorda del Genil Canal. See indicator 1.5.2.

- 3.4 Implement plan to achieve site water quality targets
- Status of progress towards meeting water quality targets set in the water 3.4.1 stewardship plan shall be identified.





Alliance for Water Stewardship (AWS)

Audit Number: AO-001616

Comment

The status of progress for each of the site's actions is evaluated regularly (monthly) in AWS Team meetings and most recent updates are documented in the WSP. Please consider the general remark made in indicator 2.3.2.

Upon applying a filter for column E, one of the fice main AWS outcomes, there are four (4) objectives set since 2022 (initial certification) that the site has set in relation to water quality, and corresponding actions are implemented and tracked; one (1) at site level and three (3) at site and catchment level (S&C):

- 1. Site: Installation of continuous measuring equipment; i.e., OsPi data connection system for automated measurements of BSB5, COD, SST, pH, and Temperature. The probes and cabinets were installed in Jan 2025, but problems with the probes were identified in May and the site is working on a permanent solution with the provider. Ongoing. Last progress update 09/05/2025.
- 2. S&C: Sampling of well water and potential research into aquifer health in collaboration with the Water Institute pending, planned for the last quarter of 2025. Last progress update 09/05/2025.
- 3. S&C: Replacing air compressors and evaporative condensers to increase efficiency and prevent legionellosis. Installation of the new compressors and condensers underway in 2025. This will also have a co-benefit, contributing to an estimated 1.400m3/year water savings and the site's progress towards meeting water balance targets.
- 4. S&C: Tetrachloroethylene (PERC) filters: three PERC activated carbon filter units were installed in June 2025 as a the pre-treatment of the incoming water. Verified during site tour.
- 3.4.2 Where water quality is a shared water challenge, continual improvement to achieve best practice for the site's effluent shall be identified and where applicable, quantified.



Comment

Water quality is a SWC, as identified and documented in Chapter 8.1. of the site's AWS manual.

As for the site's continual improvement efforts to achieve BP, please refer to the actions listed in indicator 3.4.1.

- 3.5 Implement plan to maintain or improve the site's and/or catchment's Important Water-Related Areas.
- 3.5.1 Practices set in the water stewardship plan to maintain and/or enhance the site's Important Water-Related Areas shall be implemented.

Q Obs.

made in indicator 1.5.5.



Alliance for Water Stewardship (AWS)

Audit Number: AO-001616

Comment

Upon applying a filter for column E, the fife main AWS outcomes, there are three (3) objectives since 2022 (initial certification) that the site has set in relation to maintenance/improvement of IWRAs, and corresponding practices that were identified are:

- 1. Monitoring the status of the Los Vados WWTP expansion project and its connection to the municipalities of Vega de Granada, which seems to have been concluded in Jan 2024 and further is not considered to be an IWRA related practice, but is contributing to 'Good water quality status' for the catchment/basin. Please consider the general remark made in indicator 1.5.5.
- 2. Participation in the multi-stakeholder partnership project "Beiro Project" to regenerate (e.g., planting trees, build a cycling path, etc.) the right bank of the Beiro River together with Granada City Council and the companies located on Camino de Purchil. Unfortunately, there is no real progress to date regarding the development of the necessary actions, despite the project being identified in May 2025. The site is planning further meetings with the stakeholders to evaluate if and how the project can move to implementation stage.

 3. Development of measures to prevent soil and groundwater contamination, entailing the installation and commissioning of a hydrocarbon separator in the area of the new generator sets. As the first example, this is not considered to be an IWRA related practice, but is

contributing to 'Good water quality status' for the site. Please consider the general remark

A previous collaborative initiative between the site and CHG to restore a degraded IWRA within the catchment (confluence of the Beiro and Genil) entailed the planting of 50 trees in 2022 and restored some vegetation, and another planting of 100 new trees in 2023 (due to a severe drought in 2022 none of the trees planted in 2022 survived). Learning from this previous failure, a regular watering and maintenance schedule was established and the site has now fully handed over the area to CHG in 2025.

In summary, the site has successfully implemented an IWRA restoration between 2022 and 2025, which was fully handed over to CHG. Two of the three practices currently listed as IWRA-related in the WSP are actually related to water quality, and the only remaining 'true' IWRA-related project is facing uncertainty in terms of if or when it will progress to implementation stage. An observation was therefore raised during this recertification audit, as a failure to deliver on this initiative could lead to a potential non-conformity during the next surveillance as no IWRA maintenance/improvement will have been implemented.

- 3.6 Implement plan to provide access to safe drinking water, effective sanitation, and protective hygiene (WASH) for all workers at all premises under the site's control.
- 3.6.1 Evidence of the site's provision of adequate access to safe drinking water, effective sanitation, and protective hygiene (WASH) for all workers onsite shall be identified and where applicable, quantified.



Comment

The site describes how they implement WASH on site in Chapter 5.5 of their AWS Manual.

During this recertification audit it was confirmed with HR that the site currently has a total of 306 employees, and 21 interns, as well as the following on-site contractors: Security (5) and catering (3). The site operates a variety of different shift systems, depending on the operational area however, they all work in a three shift system. Most populated shift counts 64 person, with a male:female ration of 2:1.

WASH facilities onsite are exceeding the required numbers when compared against national regulation. There must be one for every 25 men and one for every 15 women, according to INSST Technical Guide for the Evaluation and Prevention of Risks Related to the Use of Workplaces.

Adequate access to safe drinking water it is warranted through the provision of bottled water fountains located throughout the plant.



Alliance for Water Stewardship (AWS)

Audit Number: AO-001616

3.6.2	Evidence that the site is not impinging on the human right to safe water and sanitation of communities through their operations, and that traditional access rights for indigenous and local communities are being respected, and that remedial actions are in place where this is not the case, and that these are effective.	⊘ Yes
Comment	The site is not impinging on the human right to safe water and sanitation of communities through their operations, and there are no distinct groups within mainland Spain that are typically identified and officially recognized as "Indigenous peoples".	
3.7	Implement plan to maintain or improve indirect water use within the catchment:	
3.7.1	Evidence that indirect water use targets set in the water stewardship plan, as applicable, have been met shall be quantified.	⊘ Yes
Comment	The site is collaborating with one of their service providers (who washes their industrial workwear) to minimise indirect water use for some years now, despite the fact that the indirect water use is close to only 0.01%. Therefore, and given that the indirect water savings happened their service provider's site, there are no targets set by Abbott other than the close collaboration and ongoing engagement with that key stakeholder. Abbott's indirect water consumption was reduced by 19.5% in 2023 with the implemented measures at their service provider's site, and further improvement measures are ongoing, a confirmed during the stakeholder interview with this service provider.	en
3.7.2	Evidence of engagement with suppliers and service providers, as well as, when applicable, actions they have taken in the catchment as a result of the site's engagement related to indirect water use, shall be identified.	⊘ Yes
Comment	The site sends out annual emails to obtain indirect water use data from their suppliers. Only one supplier of primary products has responded to the site's email query about water consumption thus far. Email evidence from 2024 and 2025 was reviewed on site.	/
3.8	Implement plan to engage with and notify the owners of any shared water-related infrastructure of any concerns the site may have.	
3.8.1	Evidence of engagement, and the key messages relayed with confirmation of receipt, shall be identified.	⊘ Yes
Comment	Plenty of evidence was reviewed during this recertification audit that the site is regularly engages with their identified stakeholders. For official communication with the local authority e.g., submission of annual summary report of extracted well water, confirmation receipts are available.	
3.9	Implement actions to achieve best practice towards AWS outcomes: continually improve towards achieving sectoral best practice having a local/catchment, regional, or national relevance.	
3.9.1	Actions towards achieving best practice, related to water governance, as applicable, shall be implemented.	⊘ Yes
Comment	All identified BPs are documented in the site's AWS Manual, chapter 12. The site implement an array of various BPs related to water governance, which could be confirmed during this onsite audit, and some examples were positively mentioned also in the closing meeting. Se information provided in indicator 3.1.1. also.	
3.9.2	Actions towards achieving best practice, related to targets in terms of	②

WSAS

water balance shall be implemented.

Yes



Alliance for Water Stewardship (AWS)

Audit Number: AO-001616

Comment

All identified BPs are documented in the site's AWS Manual, chapter 12. The site implements an array of various BPs related achieving a sustainable water balance in 2025. A few examples are the site's comprehensive water consumption monitoring system in the plant's areas/processes, the agreement with Irrigation Community, for the use of collected rainwater, 6 Sigma projects i.e., 'Yellow Belt' project, were reviewed and discussed during this recertification audit.

3.9.3 Actions towards achieving best practice, related to targets in terms of water quality shall be implemented.

V Yes

Comment

All identified BPs are documented in the site's AWS Manual, chapter 12. The site is implementing concrete actions considered as BP related to water quality, most notably the recent Installation of online analysers and monitoring cabinets to enhance data granularity on key parameters such as BSB5, COD, SST, pH, and Temperature prior to discharge into their neighbour's infrastructure. See indicator 3.4.1 also.

3.9.4 Actions towards achieving best practice, related to targets in terms of the site's maintenance of Important Water-Related Areas shall be implemented.



Comment

All identified BPs are documented in the site's AWS Manual, chapter 12. As highlighted in indicator 1.5.5, the concept of Important Water-Related Areas (IWRAs) was not / is not interpreted or applied in the sense intended by AWS, which has an impacts on this indicator.

According to the site, they are implementing three (3) actions towards IWRA BP, but upon review of the table in chapter 12, it is noted that two of the three actions/initiatives relate to achieving a 'sustainable water balance', and that the only 'true' IWRA related initiative is facing uncertainty in terms of if or when it will progress to implementation stage, as mentioned in indicator 3.5.1.

Since this is related to the Observation already raised in 3.5.1 and given that the site is proactively seeking advancement on the IWRA initiative (emails asking the project partners for further meetings have been reviewed on site) the Lead Auditor decided not to raise a non-conformity at this stage. However, the IWRA concept understanding/interpretation by the site and how the site will have decided to improve on that subject, should be reviewed during the next Surveillance Audit in 2026.

3.9.5 Actions towards achieving best practice related to targets in terms of WASH shall be implemented.



Comment

All identified BPs are documented in the site's AWS Manual, chapter 12. The site is implementing different actions considered as BP related to WASH.

During this audit, the comprehensive legionella control and monitoring program (exceeding legal requirements) was witnessed, and prior initiatives were reviewed in the Management reviews presentations i.e., the donation of twenty 1,000-liter IBCs (converted into mobile shower units) to the Valle Scout Association for greywater recovery in their WASH facilities. The site also supported a remarkable initiative "Sed de la vida" ("Thirst for Life") via Association Gracias in the past, which focused on providing access to clean, potable water in Ghana, Boayase. The village of Boayase, with over 1,000 inhabitants, has historically lacked access to safe drinking water. The community relied on a nearby river, which was contaminated with parasites, leading to frequent water-borne diseases like typhoid. Women and girls often had to travel long distances to access water. The site co-funded the installation of a well and a water tank for the village.



Alliance for Water Stewardship (AWS)

Audit Number: AO-001616

4 STEP 4: EVALUATE - Evaluate the site's performance.

4.1 Evaluate the site's performance in light of its actions and targets from its water stewardship plan and demonstrate its contribution to achieving water stewardship outcomes.

4.1.1 Performance against targets in the site's water stewardship plan and the contribution to achieving water stewardship outcomes shall be evaluated.



Comment

Considering the Observation raised in 2.3.2, the site evaluates its performance against the water stewardship outcomes and respective objectives and actions in the site's WSP. The site evaluates the WSP monthly during the site's AWS team meetings, participants of these meetings are specified in chapter 3.2 of the site's AWS Manual.

It must be noted that the recent performance evaluations, or respectively the progress the site has been making towards some of their objectives are slightly tempered by the formation of a new functional department during the last certification cycle. A new department i.e. Food Safety, was formed by Abbott Group in 2023, which led to some operational changes on site, and consequently to the necessity to establish a new baseline against which future performance can be evaluated. One specific example affecting the AWS outcome 'Sustainable water balance' is the fact that there are more frequent maintenance shut-downs (appr. 3 per year as opposed to previously 1 per year), which triggers higher water consumption e.g. tanks must be flushed, cleaned, etc and start-up CIP processes. This impact on the site's AWS outcomes and objectives is well understood, managed, and optimized via various new projects listed in the site's WSP.

4.1.2 Value creation resulting from the water stewardship plan shall be evaluated.



Comment

The site's Sustainable Water Management Plan sets forth objectives, actions, expected value creation and benefits. The value created by each action specifically can be found in the last column of the embedded table in chapter 11 of the AWS Manual. The majority of examples contain a quantitative assessment (e.g. water savings in m3/year, kg waste removed from Genil River, percentage increase in osmosis efficiency), only a few activities are evaluated and captured in a qualitative assessment (e.g. dissemination of the basin's status to stakeholders to increase their awareness and understanding, The FMEA has been carried out, and an Action Plan has been generated that proposes several actions to improve wastewater management, Minimizing the risk of polluting substances being released into the stormwater system, etc.)

Chapter 11 is partially linked to chapter 5.6.1 in the AWS manual, on water-related costs, revenues, and shared value creation.

4.1.3 The shared value benefits in the catchment shall be identified and where applicable, quantified.



Comment

Please refer to indicator 4.1.2. All activities' value creation and shared value benefits are listed in detail in chapter 11 of the site's AWS manual, and were quantified in most cases.

4.2 Evaluate the impacts of water-related emergency incidents (including extreme events), if any occurred, and determine the effectiveness of corrective and preventative measures.

4.2.1 A written annual review and (where appropriate) root-cause analysis of the year's emergency incident(s) shall be prepared and the site's response to the incident(s) shall be evaluated and proposed preventative and corrective actions and mitigations against future incidents shall be identified.



WSAS



Alliance for Water Stewardship (AWS)

Audit Number: AO-001616

Comment

The site reviewed a recent incident at the public WWTP (Sep 2024) diligently, and performed a root-cause analysis (RCA) appropriately (Oct 2024). The site is using the RCA tools and templates from their ISO Management System (controlled documents). The entire process is documented in Chapter 3 of the site's SOP 'Control y tratamiento de las NCs de seguridad, medio ambiente y energía de las desviaciones', subchapter 3.1.2 specifically defines the RCA process. The incident, the RCA outcome and the course of action were later summarised and presented during the site's Management Review in Q1 2025.

The site's immediate response to the incident was to seek immediate communication i.e. set up a meeting with the affected parties to gather information as input for their RCA. The proposed preventative actions were based on the RCA outcome and the continued communication, and in the course of time a much more beneficial mitigation pathway against potential future incidents was identified and is now being pursued by the site (still ongoing/finalising). As a result of this incident, a win-win situation emerged, and the site hence decided to completely change that aspect of their operations that had contributed to the initial incident.

The email exchanges between the affected parties, the SOP as well as the RCA form were reviewed during this re-certification audit.

- 4.3 Evaluate stakeholders' consultation feedback regarding the site's water stewardship performance, including the effectiveness of the site's engagement process.
- **4.3.1** Consultation efforts with stakeholders on the site's water stewardship performance shall be identified.



Comment

The site keeps records of all stakeholder meetings (individual meetings) on the site's water stewardship performance.

The most recent meeting minutes were reviewed

- 10 July 2025 with CHG,
- 13 June 2025 with their neighbour.
- Evaluate and update the site's water stewardship plan, incorporating the information obtained from the evaluation process in the context of continual improvement.
- **4.4.1** The site's water stewardship plan shall be modified and adapted to incorporate any relevant information and lessons learned from the evaluations in this step and these changes shall be identified.



Comment

The site's WSP is modified and adapted regularly to incorporate any relevant information and lessons learned from e.g., stakeholder feed-back or interaction, AWS team meetings' evaluations, etc. Lessons learned are not highlighted explicitly in the WSP i.e. they are implicit, reflected in new/updated actions and initiatives. They are also discussed in the bimonthly management meetings.

The site keeps a single of file of their WSP, which allows the review of previous versions and track any changes and updates since initial certification in 2022.



Alliance for Water Stewardship (AWS)

Audit Number: AO-001616

5	STEP 5: COMMUNICATE & DISCLOSE - Communicate about water stewardship and disclose the site's stewardship efforts
5.1	Disclose water-related internal governance of the site's management, including the positions of those accountable for legal compliance with water-related local laws and regulations.
5.1.1	The site's water-related internal governance, including positions of those accountable for compliance with water-related laws and Yes regulations shall be disclosed.
Comment	The site shares an annual report with all of their stakeholders (please refer to indicator 1.2.1) which contains the required information of the site's water-related internal governance, as well as a positions of those accountable for compliance with water-related laws and regulations. The last report covering calendar year 2024 was prepared and shared in July 2025 "INFORME ANUAL GESTIÓN SOSTENIBLE DEL AGUA – Año 2024"
	The site sent an email on the 14th of July 2025, but it seems that due to a technical issue only four persons have received the 2024 report. The entire report was resent as it was noted, on the 17th of July during the audit.
5.2	Communicate the water stewardship plan with relevant stakeholders.
5.2.1	The water stewardship plan, including how the water stewardship plan contributes to AWS Standard outcomes, shall be communicated to Yes relevant stakeholders.
Comment	A summary of the actions taken by the site that contribute to each of the five main AWS outcomes is summarised in the annual report mentioned in indicator 5.1.1.
5.3	Disclose annual site water stewardship summary, including: the relevant information about the site's annual water stewardship performance and results against the site's targets.
5.3.1	A summary of the site's water stewardship performance, including quantified performance against targets, shall be disclosed annually at a minimum.
Comment	Some, not all, of the implemented actions that contribute to each of the 5 main AWS outcomes contain quantified performance in the annual report mentioned in indicator 5.1.1. Please refer to the observation raised in indicator 2.3.2 regarding the WSP's focus on actions rather than overarching targets.
5.4	Disclose efforts to collectively address shared water challenges, including: associated efforts to address the challenges; engagement with stakeholders; and co-ordination with public-sector agencies.
5.4.1	The site's shared water-related challenges and efforts made to address these challenges shall be disclosed.
Comment	Section 4 in the annual report mentioned in indicator 5.1.1. contains a summary table of the site's efforts made and status of projects/initiatives to address identified SWCs.
5.4.2	Efforts made by the site to engage stakeholders and coordinate and support public-sector agencies shall be identified.
Comment	The respective stakeholders that are engaged in each of the projects/initiatives are transparently listed in the same table in Section 4 in the annual report mentioned in indicator 5.1.1.

WSAS



Alliance for Water Stewardship (AWS)

Audit Number: AO-001616

5.5	Communicate transparency in water-related compliance: make any site water-related compliance violations available upon request as well as any corrective actions the site has taken to prevent future occurrences.	
5.5.1	Any site water-related compliance violations and associated corrections shall be disclosed.	✓ Yes
Comment	There were no water-related compliance violations in the past certification cycle.	
5.5.2	Necessary corrective actions taken by the site to prevent future occurrences shall be disclosed if applicable.	✓ Yes
Comment	Not applicable, see indicator 5.5.1	
5.5.3	Any site water-related violation that may pose significant risk and threat to human or ecosystem health shall be immediately communicated to relevant public agencies and disclosed.	Yes
Comment	There were no water-related violations, see indicator 5.5.1.	
	Previous Findings	
	All non-conformities raised in the previous audit have been satisfactorily closed.	₹ Yes
Comment	There were no non-conformities raised in the previous Surveillance audit.	