

**Notice to Water Only Companies of  
Programme of Environmental Obligations Agreed  
By The Secretary of State for the Environment,  
Transport and the Regions and for Wales**

**Periodic Review of Water Company Price Limits  
2000 – 2005**

**The Environment Agency  
Rio House, Waterside Drive  
Aztec West, Almondsbury  
Bristol, BS32 4UD**

**March 1999**

ENVIRONMENT AGENCY



102174

**ANNEX 1**

**REQUIREMENTS FOR THE CHANGES TO THE ARRANGEMENTS  
FOR WATER ABSTRACTION**

# REQUIREMENTS FOR THE CHANGES TO THE ARRANGEMENTS FOR WATER ABSTRACTION

## Timing of Work

The proposed programme for completing the work listed in this annex is to be discussed between each Company and the Environment Agency Region. Dates set are generally the latest which could be acceptable: the expectation is for investigations and implementations to proceed as quickly as possible. In general the attached envisages:

- Habitats Directive sites and other SSSIs where the solution is clear, dealt with by March 2003 where possible;
- Other sites where solution is clear, dealt with to achieve a good proportion of completions by March 2003;
- Investigations to proceed as soon as possible; March 2005 is the **latest** date for clear conclusions.

In addition, the Secretary of State's report entitled "*Raising the Quality*" makes it clear that in the event of investigations leading to the formulation of a scheme, that scheme must be implemented as soon as practicable.

Our ref: (0222a)

Your ref:

Date: 1 March 1999

For the attention of the Managing Director  
The Bournemouth & West Hampshire Water Plc  
George Jessel House  
Francis Avenue  
Bournemouth  
Dorset  
BH11 8BN

Dear Sir

### ENVIRONMENTAL OBLIGATIONS – 2000 TO 2005

In May last year we published an open letter to the Secretary of State for the Environment, Transport and the Regions and for Wales, setting out the Agency's proposals for the environmental improvements to be implemented by the water companies during the period 2000-05. The details were set out in a plan of action in our report *A Price Worth Paying*.

The Secretaries of State considered our proposals, and the views of Ofwat on the implications for water bills, and subsequently published their guidance to the Director General of Ofwat on the environmental and quality objectives to be achieved by the water industry in England and Wales 2000-05 in their report *Raising the Quality*, September 1998.

This guidance has now been translated into detailed environmental obligations which have been agreed by the Secretaries of State for each water company. The Agency will, where appropriate, implement and enforce these obligations through changes to the water abstraction licences held by your company.

The detailed obligations for your company are attached as in Annex 1.

Annex 1 lists the requirements for the changes to the arrangements for water abstraction.

This annex constitutes the programme of environmental obligations agreed by the Secretaries of State which are to be achieved by your water company in the period 2000-05. Where possible, we have indicated provisional dates for implementing these obligations. We will be pleased to discuss these dates with you and where necessary, we will then issue a revised programme in time for any changes to be taken into account in final price limits.

I should be grateful if you would arrange for the programme of environmental obligations shown in Annex 1 to be included in your draft Business Plan which you have been asked to submit to Ofwat by 9 April 1999.

Cont/d..

Environment Agency  
Rio House, Waterside Drive, Aztec West, Almondsbury, Bristol, BS32 4UD  
Tel: 01454 624400 Fax: 01454 624409

May I take this opportunity to thank you and your staff for the co-operation you have given us throughout this periodic review, which has enabled us to reach this important milestone in the process.

I am copying this letter to Alan Davis at DETR, Ian Byatt at Ofwat, Bob Macey at the Welsh Office and Pamela Taylor at Water UK.

Yours faithfully

**ED GALLAGHER**  
**Chief Executive**

Enc. (1)

**REQUIREMENTS FOR THE CHANGES TO THE ARRANGEMENTS  
FOR WATER ABSTRACTION**

There are no requirements, based on our current understanding, for changes to the arrangements for water abstraction.

# Anglian Region

# Cambridge Water Company

| Site Name            | Driver   | Source of Problem                                  | Licence Number(s)                            | Current Licence Conditions | Proposed Solution                          | Proposed Investigation   | Timetable                             |
|----------------------|----------|--|--|----------------------------|--|--|---------------------------------------|
| Fowlmere             | SSSI     | CWC abstractions at Fowlmere & Melbourn            | 6/33/30/G/026, 6/33/30/G/168 & 6/33/30/G/156 | 3319 MI/a & 2900 MI/a      | 50% licence reduction and associated works | Piezo's, hydrol monitoring and options appraisal to help identify cost-effective remediation | Investigate & Implement by March 2005 |
| Dernford Fen         | SSSI     | CWC abstractions at Sawston & Sawston Mill         | 6/33/28/G/013 + 038 & 6/33/27/G/039          | 545.5 MI/a & 2104.8 MI/a   | n/a  | Piezo's, ecol & hydrol monitoring, gauge boards; link to Sawston Hall Meadows                | Investigate by March 2005             |
| Sawston Hall Meadows | SSSI     | CWC abstractions at Abington Park & Hinxton Grange | 6/33/28/G/050 & 6/33/27/G/039                | 365 MI/a & 2104 MI/a       | n/a  | Piezo's, ecol & hydrol monitoring, gauge boards; link to Sawston Hall Meadows                | Investigate by March 2005             |
| Granta               | non SSSI |  |  |                            |  |  | Investigate by March 2005             |

# Anglian Region

# Tendring Hundred

| Site Name | Driver   | Source of Problem | Licence Number(s) | Current Licence Conditions | Proposed Solution | Proposed Investigation | Timetable                 |
|-----------|----------|-------------------|-------------------|----------------------------|-------------------|------------------------|---------------------------|
| R Brett   | non SSSI |                   |                   |                            |                   |                        | Investigate by March 2005 |

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Anglian Region

Essex and Suffolk Water

| Site Name                        | Driver             | Source of Problem                                  | Licence Number(s) | Current Licence Conditions            | Proposed Solution  | Proposed Investigation                                  | Timetable                             |
|----------------------------------|--------------------|--|-------------------|---------------------------------------|--|---|---------------------------------------|
| Burgh Common & Muckfleet Marshes | Habitats Directive | ESW abstraction at Ormesby Broad                   | 7/34/09/54        | 10,000 MI/a                           | n/a  | Piezo's, ecol & hydrol monitoring, level gauges         | Investigate by March 2005             |
| Ouse Washes                      | Habitats Directive | Agency transfer to Essex at Denver                 | 6/33/51/S/001     | 79545 MI/a with minimum flow controls | n/a  | Ecological monitoring, hydrological studies & modelling | Investigate by March 2005             |
| Wash & North Norfolk Coast       | Habitats Directive | Agency transfer to Essex at Denver                 | 6/33/51/S/001     | 79545 MI/a with minimum flow controls | n/a  | Ecological monitoring, hydrological studies & modelling | Investigate by March 2005             |
| Cattawade Marshes                | SSSI               | ESW abstractions at Langham, Stratford & Cattawade | 8/36/15/S/123     | 116,070 MI/a                          | Modifications to intake works; reduction in licensed abstraction by up to 1.5 MI/d | Hydrological and breeding bird monitoring               | Investigate & Implement by March 2005 |
| R Brett                          | non SSSI           |  |                   |                                       |  |   | Investigate by March 2005             |

South West Region

Cholderton and District

| Site Name | Driver   | Source of Problem       | Licence Number(s) | Current Licence Conditions | Proposed Solution | Proposed Investigation                   | Timetable                 |
|-----------|----------|-------------------------|-------------------|----------------------------|-------------------|--|---------------------------|
| Bourne    | non SSSI | Groundwater Abstraction | 13/43/42/110      | >1M/d                      | NA                | Review options for further investigation | Investigate by March 2005 |

01/03/99

EA/HO/AAS/overabs/amp3\_list\_2

## South West Region

## Bristol Water

| Site Name                      | Driver   | Source of Problem       | Licence Number(s)  | Current Licence Conditions  | Proposed Solution   | Proposed Investigation   | Timetable                 |
|--------------------------------|----------|-------------------------|--|---|---|--|---------------------------|
| Max Bog                        | SSSI     | Groundwater Abstraction | 16/52/12/G/046 (Winscombe),<br>16/52/13/G/011 (Banwell)                | 3.41 MI/d, 950 MI/year (Winscombe), 16 MI/d 4850 MI/year (Banwell). | NA  | Investigate perceived problem of groundwater abstraction reducing yield from raised bog area | Investigate by March 2005 |
| Upper Bristol Avon Tributaries | non SSSI | Groundwater abstraction | 1753/01/G/410F (Wessex, 10 MI/d),<br>1753/06/G/006 (Bristol 18.1 MI/d) | Wessex 10 MI/d, Bristol 18.1 MI/d.                                  | current reduction of 5 MI/d, Reduction of abstraction by 10 MI/d by 2005. | NA   | Implement by March 2005   |

Southern Region

Folkestone and Dover Water

| Site Name    | Driver             | Source of Problem  | Licence Number(s) | Current Licence Conditions | Proposed Solution                             | Proposed Investigation             | Timetable                 |
|--------------|--------------------|--------------------|-------------------|----------------------------|---|------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Dungeness    | Habitats directive | Groundwater levels | 15/039            |                            |   | Modelling + groundwater management | Investigate by March 2005 |
| R Dour       | non-SSSI           | GW abstraction     | 4/65 4/439        |                            | Seasonal groundwater management+ augmentation | Modelling + augmentation trials    | Investigate by March 2005 |
| Little Stour | non-SSSI           | Low GW levels      | 4/271 4/58        |                            | Reduced Abstraction + river lining            | Modelling + augmentation           | Investigate by March 2005 |

Southern Region

Mid Kent Water

| Site Name          | Driver   | Source of Problem | Licence Number(s)         | Current Licence Conditions | Proposed Solution                  | Proposed Investigation   | Timetable                 |
|--------------------|----------|-------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| Little Stour       | non SSSI | Low GW levels     | 4/271 4/58                |                            | Reduced abstraction + river lining | Modelling + augmentation | Investigate by March 2005 |
| North Kent Springs | non SSSI | Low GW levels     | 2/237, 2/238, 2/236,2/304 |                            | Groundwater Management             | monitoring + modelling   | Investigate by March 2005 |

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Southern Region

South East Water

| Site Name       | Driver   | Source of Problem  | Licence Number(s)                     | Current Licence Conditions   | Proposed Solution  | Proposed Investigation   | Timetable                               |
|-----------------|----------|--|---------------------------------------|--|--|--|---|
| Pevensey Levels | SSSI     | Surface abs from Wallers Haven & GW abs from upper catchment of P.L. | 10/41/121302, 121002, 122001, 120302. | River intake tied to MRF, when flow <18.41 Mld abs not to exceed diff. betw actual flow and 3.41 Mld (hands off flow) or total of sites (1+3+4), plus 65% of 65% of 6+8+11). | None at present  | Conceptual model to assess hydrological yield and impact of abs. proposed. Also hydrogeological and drainage network models. | Investigate by March 2005               |
| Wey at Alton    | non SSSI | Weyspring GW Abs   |                                       | 2.5 MI/d   | Cease Abstraction  |  | Implement by March 2003                 |
| River Darent    | non SSSI | headwater groundwater abstraction                                    | 1/0142/GR                             | Annual:17.66 MI/d, Daily: 21.68 MI/d   | Reduce Annual to 10.6 MI/d, Daily to 13 MI/d: replaced by Tonbridge scheme | Investigate use of Tonbridge lakes scheme  | Investigate and implement by March 2005 |

## Southern Region

## Portsmouth Water

| Site Name          | Driver             | Source of Problem   | Licence Number(s)   | Current Licence Conditions             | Proposed Solution        | Proposed Investigation                              | Timetable                             |
|--------------------|--------------------|---|---|--|--------------------------|---|---------------------------------------|
| Chichester Harbour | Habitats Directive | Abstraction from Chalk at Fishbourne leading to reduction in freshwater flow to Mill Pond | 10/41/521502  | Current abs 8 Mld, 13.6 Mld max daily. | None at present          | Monitoring and investigation into impact of Licence | Investigate by March 2005             |
| Itchen             | SSSI/SAC           | GW/SW Abstraction   | 22.10/134;<br>22.3/55; 22.4/80;<br>22.6/93; 22.7/94;<br>22.6/92 |  | Relocate SWS abstraction | Modelling   | Investigate & Implement by March 2005 |
| The Moors          | SSSI               | GW Abstraction  | 25.2/15   |  | Close Hoe PWS            |   | Implement by March 2003               |
| River Hamble       | non SSSI           | GW Abstraction  | 25.2/15   |  | Close Hoe PWS            |   | Implement by March 2003               |

## Midlands Region

## South Staffordshire Water

| Site Name                                      | Driver   | Source of Problem        | Licence Number(s)              | Current Licence Conditions | Proposed Solution                | Proposed Investigation   | Timetable                 |
|--|----------|--------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------------|--|---------------------------|
| BLAKEDOWN BROOK<br>(Hurcott and Podmore Pools) | SSSI     | GROUND WATER ABSTRACTION | 18/54/06/0140<br>18/54/06/0165 | NONE                       | COMPENSATION INFLOW NEW BOREHOLE |  | Implement by March 2003   |
| SMESTOW BROOK                                  | non SSSI | GROUND WATER ABSTRACTION |                                |                            |                                  | AWAITING RESULTS OF WEST MIDLANDS GROUNDWATER MODEL TO INVESTIGATE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN GROUNDWATER ABSTRACTION AND STREAM FLOWS . | Investigate by March 2005 |
| MIDDLE STOUR                                   | non SSSI | GROUND WATER ABSTRACTION |                                |                            |                                  | AWAITING RESULTS OF WEST MIDLANDS GROUNDWATER MODEL TO INVESTIGATE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN GROUNDWATER ABSTRACTION AND STREAM FLOWS . | Investigate by March 2005 |

Thames Region

Three Valleys Water

| Site Name    | Driver   | Source of Problem | Licence Number(s) | Current Licence Conditions | Proposed Solution        | Proposed Investigation | Timetable                 |
|--------------|----------|-------------------|-------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|---------------------------|
| River Beane  | non SSSI | White Hall GW Abs |                   | 22.73 MI/d                 | Re-locate down catchment |                        | Implement by March 2005   |
| River Mimram | non SSSI |                   |                   |                            |                          | Studies + Monitoring   | Investigate by March 2005 |
| River Gade   | non SSSI |                   |                   |                            |                          | Studies + Monitoring   | Investigate by March 2005 |
| Upper Pant   | non SSSI |                   |                   |                            |                          | Studies + Monitoring   | Investigate by March 2005 |