



guardians of drinking water quality

DRINKING WATER INSPECTORATE

Area 7E, 9 Millbank
c/o Nobel House
17 Smith Square
London SW1P 3JR

Enquiries: 030 0068 6400

DWI Website: <http://www.dwi.gov.uk>

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*******PRESS RELEASE*******

Chief Inspector of Drinking Water vs Southern Water Services Ltd

Southern Water Services Ltd today pleaded guilty to the supply of water unfit for human consumption and the use of non-approved products during an event that affected an area of Southampton in October 2015.

The charges were brought under Section 70 of the Water Industry Act 1991 (as amended) and the Water Supply (Water Quality) Regulations 2000 (as amended).

The District Judge retained jurisdiction and will deliver his judgement and impose any sentence on 25 August 2017.

Notes to editors :

1. The Drinking Water Inspectorate's main task is to check that water companies in England and Wales supply wholesome drinking water that complies with Regulations.
2. Section 70 of the Water Industry Act 1991 (as amended) makes it criminal offence for a water company to supply water which is unfit for human consumption. The Drinking water Inspectorate (DWI) investigates all drinking water quality events in England and Wales and will bring prosecutions if it believes that it has reliable evidence that an offence was committed, where the company does not have a defence that it took all reasonable steps and exercised all due diligence, and when such a prosecution is regarded as being in the public interest.
3. Regulation 33 makes it an offence to apply or introduce any product which is not approved under Regulation 31 of the Water Supply (Water Quality) Regulations.

For interviews with an Inspector contact at the conclusion of the case contact

DWI Enquiries

0300 068 6400