



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

E-mail: milo.purcell@defra.gsi.gov.uk

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

DWI Information Letter 01/2017

13 February 2017

To: Board Level and Day to Day Contacts of Water and Sewerage Companies and Water Companies in England and Wales

Dear Sir or Madam

THE WATER INDUSTRY (SUPPLIERS' INFORMATION) DIRECTION 2017

Purpose

1. This letter is to inform you of the introduction of the Water Industry (Suppliers' Information) Direction 2017 on behalf of the Secretary of State and Welsh Ministers, and to outline the key changes within it. A copy of the Direction is sent with this letter and will also be available on the Inspectorate's website (www.dwi.gov.uk).

Background

2. The Water Industry (Suppliers' Information) Direction 2017 will come into effect on 1 April 2017 and will supersede the Water Industry (Suppliers' Information) Direction 2012.

Key changes in the 2017 Direction

3. The Direction has been updated
- a). to make changes necessary due to the commencement of competition with respect to non-household supplies,
 - b). to update requests for data to reflect needs of the Inspectorate – main provision being the bringing forward of the reporting of compliance data to five weeks in arrears.
 - c). to formalise arrangements already in place for the provision of risk assessment reports
4. The 2017 Direction also incorporates minor amendments and additional information requirements including:

- a). Updates to references to the Regulations¹.
- b). Under 3(1) – formalisation of the inclusion of untreated water samples.
- c). Under 5(1) – the bringing forward of the date of provision of annual data.
- d). Under 5(1)(c)(i) – a change to the units for describing the capacity of service reservoirs from mega litres to cubic metres to facilitate the calculation of indices.
- e) Under 5(1)(e)(v) – the new requirement to provide the relationships between zones where rezoning has taken place.
- f). Under 5(1)(g) – the new requirement to provide the relationship between assets and supply systems for reporting risks – formalising arrangements already being met.
- g). Under 6(1)(d) – the new requirement to supply the boundary of the Undertakers area of appointment.
- h). Under 7(3) – the new requirement to provide out of service data on a monthly basis.
- i). Under 7(4) – the formalisation of risk assessment reporting.
- j). Under 8(3) – the update of the text to include the requirement to provide evidence of a Notice served under Section 75(2)(b) of the Water Industry Act 1991.
- k). Under 8(4) – the formalisation of the monthly update of risks where the risk score has changed.
- l). Under 9(1)(d)(i) - the removal of the word ‘national’ as significant issues requiring notification by any one company are unlikely to be of national significance.
- m). Under 9(1)(f) – the broadening of the scope of notifications relating to sampling errors to include failure to provide data from sampling.
- n). Under 9(3)(b) – the inclusion of a description of the geographical area of an event into the event notification.
- o). Under 9(3)(h) – the new requirement to provide a list of all non-household retailers engaged with about an event where applicable.
- p). Under 10(1) – the formalisation of the requirement to provide consumer contacts data by 31 January each calendar year.

¹ The Water Supply (Water Quality) Regulations 2016 in England and The Water Supply (Water Quality) Regulation 2010 as amended in Wales

This letter is being sent electronically to Board Level and day to day contacts. Please acknowledge receipt by email to dwi.enquiries@defra.gsi.gov.uk. Hard copies are not being sent but the letter may be freely copied.

Copies of this letter are being sent to Michael Roberts, Chief Executive, Water UK; Catherine Harrold, Water Resources Management, Efficiency, Innovation, Drainage & Sewers, Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs; Eifiona Williams, Water Management Team, Welsh Government; Sue Petch, Drinking Water Quality Regulator for Scotland; David O'Neill, Drinking Water Inspectorate for Northern Ireland; Tony Smith and Chairs of the Regional Consumer Council for Water; Nicci Russell, Ofwat; Paul Hickey, Environment Agency; Liz Stretton, Food Standards Agency; and Stephen Robjohns at Public Health England.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Milo Purcell". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Milo Purcell
Deputy Chief Inspector of Drinking Water