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For the attention of Dylan Spedding

10 February 2014

Dear Dylan,

Ofwat forward programme 2014-15

Yorkshire Water welcomes the opportunity to comment on the forward programme for 2014-15, particularly at this critical time for determining price controls for the next five year period.

As we have commented previously, the Regulator should have clear transparent plans, and lead by example.

As such, we commend your continued use of milestones and key dates, but would welcome further breakdown of all the projects and activities planned for the coming year. This is a vital time for both Ofwat and the companies and we feel that further detail would be of benefit to both; to enable us to undertake better business and activity planning.

The PR14 process is the critical activity in the coming year, and it is particularly important that key dates are met, to allow timely determination of price controls. We trust that Ofwat will prioritise resources appropriately to ensure that delivery dates are achieved.

Additionally, we identify implementation of the Water Bill as a key programme of activities for which appropriate resourcing and programming is essential to enable the industry to meet the government's aspiration of market opening in 2017. Ofwat must play its part in delivery of timely inputs, including providing clarity in respect of charging and recharging of costs.

We note that last year's published forward programme (for 2013-14 and 2014-15) included proposals for self-monitoring and publication of KPIs for Ofwat's performance, which are not mentioned in this document for consultation. For completeness we would welcome an update on this project which we consider to be valuable to maintain the credibility of the sector.

We trust you find this feedback helpful, and look forward to working with you over the coming year.

Yours sincerely

Leonie Mackenzie
Regulatory Strategy Manager