

Regulation 12(3) 13

Regulation and Scientific Services Director  
Northumbrian Water Group  
Abbey Road  
Pity Me  
Durham  
DH1 5FJ

Date: 6<sup>th</sup> June 2014

Dear [REDACTED] Regulation 12(3) 13

**Urban Waste Water Treatment Directive – Compliance Requirements with Judgment of European Court of Justice, Whitburn Storm Interceptor Tunnel and St Peters Sewage Pumping Station**

We have received a letter (copied to Northumbrian Water) from [REDACTED] at Defra concerning action to be taken in response to the breach of the Urban Waste Water Treatment Directive (UWWTD) identified by the Court of Justice of the European Union judgment of 18 October 2012.

To ensure the UK comply with the relevant parts of the judgment, Defra have stated that work should commence to increase the capacity of the sewerage system to reduce the spill frequency of both Whitburn Storm Interceptor Tunnel and St Peters sewage pumping station combined sewer overflows (CSO). Further to discussions between our respective planning and technical teams, I can confirm that up to 10,000 m<sup>3</sup> of storage will be needed at Whitburn and up to 4,000 m<sup>3</sup> at St Peters to satisfy the requirements of the judgment. We will be issuing a further version of the PR14 National Environment Programme (NEP) with separate entries for Whitburn and St Peters CSO's with an associated UID1 driver. I would be grateful if you could make appropriate allowance for this work in your PR14 final business plan.

Defra also emphasised that there should be minimal delay to the current estimated completion date to avoid fines. The NEP will include an end date of December 2017 for both schemes notwithstanding any issues around planning, permitting and land acquisition, which may reasonably be expected to occur. A credible plan of works with regular updates will be relayed to the European Commission to demonstrate that the UK is making appropriate steps towards compliance with the judgement and



therefore avoid fines. As such, we will continue to work closely with you and inform Defra of progress with the works. We understand Defra will need to report to the European Commission on a six monthly basis.

Finally, may I thank you for your continued co-operation throughout the European Infraction case and hope that we can continue to work together to assist the UK in bringing proceedings to a satisfactory conclusion.

Yours sincerely



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Director Operations North and East

Cc [Redacted] Ofwat  
[Redacted] Ofwat  
[Redacted] Defra

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