

31 October 2018

Trust in water

Notification that British Telecommunications PLC has applied for a Water Supply Licence and Sewerage Licence limited to self-supply Water

About this document

British Telecommunications PLC (“**BT**”), a registered company with company number 1800000, whose contact address is at 81 Newgate Street, London, EC1A 7AJ has applied for a retail restricted to self-supply licence with authorisation for water and sewerage (“**WSSL**”).

This document provides notice of the application, guidance for which is [here](#).

The application

BT is a communications services company. Its main activities are the provision of fixed-line services, broadband, mobile and TV products and services as well as networked IT services.

On 16 October 2018, BT applied for a water supply licence and a sewerage licence, with a retail authorisation limited to self-supply. If granted, this will enable BT to provide retail services to itself and associated persons. A WSSL limited to self-supply will only be granted to supply premises supplied or served using the water supply or sewerage system of an undertaker whose area is wholly or mainly in England.

Summary of application

As a self-supply licensee, BT will:

1. Pay wholesale prices – the price that retailers pay to the water companies
2. Not pay retail margin added by suppliers in the open water market
3. Become a market participant including membership of MOSL with voting rights and the ability to directly influence the market
4. Be able to supply water services to multiple sites

BT considers that self-supply provides an opportunity to build on the works already undertaken and develop its partnership with Waterscan whilst driving cost and consumption control, particularly through a single electronic bill. Clarity of data is key to monitoring BT’s performance and it foresees this as a huge benefit from moving to self-supply. Taking control of data will help BT to provide more accurate reporting of consumption and spend which will improve identification of high consumption sites particularly on unmanned telephone exchanges and sites with a mobile workforce.

Waterscan will provide BT with operational and technical support. This partnership will take the form of a contractual agreement between the parties and has been submitted as part of the application process.

How to respond

Any person who wishes to make representations or objections with respect to the application and our proposal to modify the standard licence conditions should do so in writing (which includes by email) to Ofwat at Centre City Tower, 7 Hill Street, Birmingham, B5 4UA or by completing the webform.

Representations must be received by Ofwat no later than 17.00 hours on 5 Nov 2018. Further information about how to make representations or objections, including information on the treatment of confidential information, can be obtained from Ofwat at the above address or at <http://www.ofwat.gov.uk/foi/>.

Ofwat (The Water Services Regulation Authority) is a non-ministerial government department. We regulate the water sector in England and Wales. Our vision is to be a trusted and respected regulator, working at the leading edge, challenging ourselves and others to build trust and confidence in water.

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