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██████████
Managing Director
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To be sent by email to

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Dear ██████████

RAPID and Ofwat – SESRO – Environmental Assessment Report – Gate 1 Assessment

We have now had an opportunity to review the recently issued Environmental Assessment Report (EAR) on the Abingdon Reservoir, with some earlier redactions removed.

As two village's will be impacted on by the proposed reservoir, Ardington and Lockinge is disappointed that Thames Water (TW) are still providing, in our opinion, wishy washy platitudes in respect of what the development will look like and its likely devastating impact on our community and others in its vicinity.

In this regard, we would like Thames Water to provide;

- 1) **Visual Designs of the Proposed Structure and How it Relates to All Villages in the Area.**
There are, as far as we are aware, no graphics showing the colossal bunding, the proximity of the walls to existing settlements and the overall impact on the Lowland Vale. We appreciate that detailed design may not be possible at this stage, but TW have produced enough information to enable outline graphics to be produced – not just a view from the Ridgeway, that does not show the impact at Vale level. We can only read into this, that producing such images will be detrimental to TW's assertions that the reservoir will be a welcome amenity to the people who live nearby.
- 2) **Data on Air Pollution, Noise and Traffic and Mitigation Measures.** The sparse information about the impact of 10 years of construction work is deafening in its silence. TW have given no indication of expected levels of pollution, disruption and the impact on surrounding communities. Nor have they said how they will mitigate these. It is not enough to say "*Mitigation measures are anticipated to be put in place to minimise impacts*" What are they? What does anticipated mean in this context? How will they mitigate the emissions from thousands of lorries, digging equipment and traffic congestion caused by this development? Post development, what will replace the 4sq miles of CO2 absorbing vegetation dug up by this development? It will not be possible to plant trees on the bunding for safety reasons, so what can TW do to mitigate the destruction of this long established green site?

