

Thames Tideway Tunnel Project: Regulation 6(8) Notice No. 1 of 2021

10 March 2021

In exercise of the powers conferred by regulation 6(8) of the Water Industry (Specified Infrastructure Projects) (English Undertakers) Regulations 2013 (SI 2013/1582) (the “SIP Regulations”), the Water Services Regulation Authority (the “Authority”) issues this Notice to dis-apply, to the extent set out in this Notice, the obligation imposed by virtue of regulation 6 of the SIP Regulations for the Licensed Infrastructure Provider to apply certain provisions of the Utilities Contracts Regulations 2016 (the “2016 Regulations”), as modified by the SIP Regulations, in relation to the Thames Tideway Tunnel Project or any part of it.

This Notice does not affect the dis-application of regulation 6 of the SIP Regulations in respect of certain procurement activity as set out in the Thames Tideway Tunnel Project Regulation 6(8) Notice 2015; the Thames Tideway Tunnel Project Regulation 6(8) Notice No 1 of 2016; the Thames Tideway Tunnel Project Regulation 6(8) Notice No. 2 of 2016; the Thames Tideway Tunnel Project Regulation 6(8) Notice No 1 of 2017; the Thames Tideway Tunnel Project Regulation 6(8) Notice No 1 of 2018; the Thames Tideway Tunnel Project Regulation 6(8) Notice No 2 of 2018; the Thames Tideway Tunnel Project Regulation 6(8) Notice No 3 of 2018; the Thames Tideway Tunnel Project Regulation 6(8) Notice No 1 of 2018; and the Thames Tideway Tunnel Project Regulation 6(8) Notice No 1 of 2019. Nothing in this Notice shall prevent any further exercise by the Authority of its powers under regulation 6(8) of the SIP Regulations at any time on or after the date of this Notice.

Citation, commencement and application

1 This Notice:

- (a) may be cited as the Thames Tideway Tunnel Project Regulation 6(8) Notice No. 1 of 2021;
- (b) takes effect on 11 March 2021; and
- (c) remains in force until withdrawn by the Authority.

Interpretation

2 In this Notice:

“Act” means the Water Industry Act 1991;

“Licensed Infrastructure Provider” means the Infrastructure Provider which is the holder for the time being of the Project Licence granted under section 17FA of the Act in respect of the Thames Tideway Tunnel Project;

“Project Licence” means the *project licence* granted to the Infrastructure Provider for the Thames Tideway Tunnel Project pursuant to the powers under section 17FA of the Act on 21 August 2015, and that came into effect on 24 August;

“Thames Tideway Tunnel Project” means the *specified infrastructure project* described in schedule 1 to the Thames Tideway Tunnel Project Specification Notice; and

“Thames Tideway Tunnel Project Specification Notice” means the notice made by the Secretary of State on 4 June 2014, pursuant to regulation 4(1) of the SIP Regulations, specifying the Thames Tideway Tunnel Project as a *specified infrastructure project*.

Except as otherwise provided in this Notice, words and expressions used in the SIP Regulations and the Act (as modified and applied by the SIP Regulations) which are italicised have the same meaning in this Notice as they have in the SIP Regulations and the Act.

Regulation 6 of the SIP Regulations

- 3 Regulation 6(8) of the SIP Regulations provides that in the circumstances set out in regulation 6(2) of the SIP Regulations, the provisions of the 2016 Regulations as set out in the first column of the table in Part 1 of Schedule 2 to the SIP Regulations apply, subject to the modifications set out in the second column of the table in Part 1 of Schedule 2 to the SIP Regulations, in relation to any *licensed infrastructure provider*, unless the Authority otherwise allows by notice.
- 4 Accordingly, pursuant to the powers conferred by regulation 6(8) of the SIP Regulations and having regard to:
 - (a) the fact that:
 - (i) the Thames Tideway Tunnel Project is a *specified infrastructure project* for the purposes of regulation 4 of the SIP Regulations;
 - (ii) on 13 August 2015, the Authority designated Bazalgette Tunnel Limited (company number 9553573) as the *infrastructure provider* for the Thames Tideway Tunnel Project by virtue of the notice issued by the Authority pursuant to regulation 8(1) of the SIP Regulations, such notice coming into effect on 14 August 2015;
 - (iii) the Authority granted the Project Licence to the *infrastructure provider*;
 - (iv) the Authority issued a Notice on 21 August 2015 dis-applying regulation 6 of the SIP Regulations in respect of certain of the Licensed Infrastructure Provider’s procurement activity;
 - (v) the Authority issued a further Notice on 29 February 2016 dis-applying regulation 6 of the SIP Regulations in respect of certain professional services and legal services contracts;
 - (vi) the Authority issued a further Notice on 25 November 2016 dis-applying regulation 6 of the SIP Regulations in respect of certain software contracts;
 - (vii) the Authority issued a further Notice on 18 October 2017 dis-applying regulation 6 of the SIP Regulations in respect of certain software contracts;
 - (viii) the Authority issued a further Notice on 27 February 2018 dis-applying regulation 6 of the SIP Regulations in respect of certain contracts for social and other specific services listed in Schedule 2 of the 2016 Regulations;
 - (ix) the Authority issued a further Notice on 24 April 2018 dis-applying regulation 6 of the SIP Regulations in respect of certain charter agreements for the hire of vessels;
 - (x) the Authority issued a further Notice on 1 October 2018 dis-applying regulation 6 of the SIP Regulations in respect of certain Microsoft licensing contracts;

- (xi) the Authority issued a further Notice on 6 August 2019 dis-applying regulation 6 of the SIP Regulations in respect of certain desk top services and service desk support; and
 - (xii) the Authority issued a further Notice on 28 August 2020 dis-applying regulation 6 of the SIP Regulations in respect of certain consultancy services for tunnel inspections using an autonomous tunnel inspection system (ATIS);
- (b) the underlying aims of the SIP Regulations; and
 - (c) the general duties imposed on the Authority by virtue of section 2 of the Act,

the Authority gives this Notice to dis-apply the applicable modified provisions of the 2016 Regulations in the circumstances listed in paragraph 5.

- 5 In accordance with paragraph 4, the applicable modified provisions of the 2016 Regulations shall be dis-applied in respect of the contract listed in Schedule 1 to this Notice, provided that the Licensed Infrastructure Provider shall obtain the consent of the Authority to:
- (a) any increase in the costs, fees (including rates) and expenses associated with that contracts unless an objective mechanism governing such increases has been provided for in the contract initially entered into;
 - (b) any extension of the term of such contract, unless such an extension:
 - (i) is provided for in the contract initially entered into;
 - (ii) does not otherwise amend the terms of the contract initially entered into; and
 - (iii) does not have the effect of extending the contract beyond the end of 2024; and
 - (c) any replacement of such contract whether from the expiry of its terms or from its termination for any other reason.
- 6 In accordance with section 195A of the Act, a notice stating the reasons for this decision shall be published as soon as reasonably practicable after the making of this Notice.

Signed



on behalf of the Water Services Regulation Authority

10 March 2021

Schedule 1

The Thames Tideway Tunnel Project Regulation 6(8) Notice No. 1 of 2021 applies to the following contract which has been or will be entered into by the Licensed Infrastructure Provider and the party listed below:

Contract	Date	Parties to contract
Special Police Services Agreement expires 31 March 2021, to be extended to expire 30 th September 2023	13 th June 2016	(1) Bazalgette Tunnel Limited; and (2) Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime