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Your ref:
Our ref: B1770561
12 December 2007

Information Letter 4/2007

Dear Mr Ponton

Raw water monitoring requirements following the repeal of Council Directive 75/440/EEC on the quality required of surface water intended for the abstraction of drinking water

Purpose

1. The purpose of this letter is to inform you of the requirements for raw water monitoring after 22 December 2007.

Background

2. Regulation 25 of the Water Supply (Water Quality) (Scotland) Regulations 2001 places a duty on Scottish Water to ensure that all water is disinfected before supply, and that all surface water is adequately treated in accordance with the requirements of Council Directive 75/440/EEC on the quality required of surface water intended for the abstraction of drinking water (the Surface Water Abstraction Directive). This Directive requires the classification (risk assessment) of surface water sources based on the results of sampling and analysis, and depending on which category a source falls within, a minimum level of treatment is required.

Repeal of Council Directive 75/440/EEC and Regulation 25 issues

3. The Surface Water Abstraction Directive (SWAD) is repealed on 22 December 2007 by European Directive 2000/60/EEC, which establishes a framework for community

action in the field of water policy (the Water Framework Directive). Arrangements are therefore required to ensure that after 22 December 2007, the risk assessment and minimum water treatment provisions contained in regulation 25 of the Water Supply (Water Quality) (Scotland) Regulations 2001 are retained, thus ensuring that the 2001 Regulations continue to provide an effective level of health protection for consumers of public water supplies.

4. The disinfection requirements set out in regulations 25(1) and 25(2) of the 2001 Regulations are unaffected by the repeal of SWAD but regulations 25(3) and 25(4) define water treatment requirements by reference to SWAD. The classification or risk assessment of drinking water sources after 22 December 2007 is covered by Article 7 of the Water Framework Directive but it will be necessary to introduce a new requirement for the minimum level of treatment to be applied to surface water, or groundwater under the influence of surface water, to ensure that the risk assessment and minimum water treatment provisions of the 2001 Regulations are fully retained. This Information Letter covers the risk assessment or raw water monitoring requirements contained in Article 7 of the Water Framework Directive but details of the minimum level of treatment to be applied to surface water, or groundwater under the influence of surface water, will be the subject of a separate Information Letter.

Raw water monitoring requirements

5. All water sources intended for the abstraction of drinking water will be tested for the following “core” suite of parameters:
 - a. Coliform bacteria
 - b. *Escherichia coli*
 - c. Hydrogen ion (pH)
 - d. Turbidity
 - e. Colour
 - f. Iron
 - g. Manganese
6. All sources supplying less than 100 m³ per day must be sampled for the “core” suite of parameters 4 times per year. This sampling to commence as soon as practicable but no later than 1 January 2009.
7. For water sources supplying more than 100 m³ per day a further suite of “additional” parameters is to be sampled. The “additional” parameters to be sampled at any particular source will be identified using a joint risk assessment approach between SEPA and Scottish Water and will be jointly agreed.
8. For all sources supplying more than 100 m³ per day both the “core” and the appropriately identified “additional” parameters must be sampled as detailed in the table below:

Community served (population)	Frequency
<10,000	4 per year
10,000 to 30,000	8 per year
>30,000	12 per year

9. Samples of the raw water source should be taken at the intake in the catchment, but may be taken at the raw water sample point within the water treatment works provided that the sample point only receives water from a single source.
10. Where a water treatment works is served from two or more separate sources that combine before the inlet of the treatment works, then provision should be made to take samples of the raw water at the intake in the catchment for each of the sources or another appropriate point.
11. In cases where the risk assessment process identifies parameters currently beyond the scope of the Water Framework Directive and/or the Drinking Water Directive, SEPA and Scottish Water will jointly assess the level of risk posed by such parameters and their inclusion in future sampling requirements.

Implementation timetable for sources supplying more than 100 m³ per day

12. For all water sources supplying more than 100 m³ per day and serving a population of over 30,000, the raw water monitoring programme for the “core” parameters shall commence by 23 December 2007. The risk assessment to inform the “additional” parameters that require to be sampled for surface water sources, or groundwater sources under the influence of surface water, shall be completed by 31 March 2008 and the sampling activity shall commence immediately thereafter.
13. For all water sources supplying more than 100 m³ per day and serving a population of more than 10,000 but less than 30,000, the raw water monitoring programme for the “core” parameters shall commence by 23 December 2007. The risk assessment to inform the “additional” parameters that require to be sampled for surface water sources, or groundwater sources under the influence of surface water, shall be completed by 30 April 2008 and the sampling activity shall commence immediately thereafter.
14. For all water sources supplying more than 100 m³ per day and serving a population of less than 10,000, the raw water monitoring programme for the “core parameters” shall commence by 23 December 2007. The risk assessment to inform the additional parameters that require to be sampled for surface water sources, or groundwater sources under the influence of surface water, shall be completed by 30 June 2008 and the sampling activity shall commence immediately thereafter.

Further Information and Enquiries

15. Enquiries about this letter should be addressed to Donald Reid (Tel No: 0131 244 0278) or Email: donald.reid@scotland.gsi.gov.uk. Please acknowledge receipt of this letter.

16. Copies of this letter have been sent to Campbell Gemmell, Chief Executive, Scottish Environment Protection Agency and Alan Sutherland, Chief Executive, Water Industry Commission.

Yours sincerely

COLIN MCLAREN
Deputy Director, Drinking Water Quality