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Your ref:
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4 February 2009

INFORMATION LETTER 1 / 2009

Dear George

Cryptosporidium Standard Operating Protocols (SOPs) 2009

1. Purpose

The purpose of this letter is to provide the 2009 version of Parts 1 and 2 of the Standard Operating Protocols (SOPs) for use with *Cryptosporidium* samples from Scottish sites. The letter also clarifies requirements with respect for DWTS accreditation for *Cryptosporidium* samples.

2. Background

Since their inception, the Standard Operating Protocols (SOPs) governing the sampling and analysis of *Cryptosporidium* have been subject to continuous review and update. The versions of the SOPs presented in this information letter represent the currently agreed position relating to the sampling and analysis of *Cryptosporidium* as it affects raw and final drinking water samples taken in Scotland.

3. Revised SOPs

The revised Part 1 and Part 2 SOPs are presented at Annex A and Annex B, respectively, of this information letter.

4. Requirements for accreditation to DWTS

In the past, *Cryptosporidium* sampling and analysis has not been covered under the Drinking Water Testing Specification (DWTS). As the sampling and testing for *Cryptosporidium* has become more routine, it is no longer appropriate to exclude *Cryptosporidium* from this requirement. Scottish Ministers expect that all aspects of sampling, transportation and analysis for this parameter should now be accredited to DWTS.

You will be aware that the intention to introduce this requirement has been discussed with Scottish Water previously, and it is anticipated that this will not present the company with significant difficulties. A lead in period of 6 months will be allowed, and Scottish Water is encouraged to discuss any issues with the Drinking Water Quality Regulator during this time. Full compliance with DWTS for *Cryptosporidium* across Scottish Water will be expected from 1 August 2009.

5. Issues arising from this Information Letter

Issues arising from this Information Letter should be directed, in the first instance, to Matthew Bower, Drinking Water Quality Division, Scottish Government on 0131 244 0743. Copies of this letter will be sent to the Water Industry Commission, Waterwatch Scotland, UKAS, and the Drinking Water Inspectorates in England and Wales and Northern Ireland.

Yours sincerely

MATTHEW BOWER