

Drinking Water Quality Regulator for Scotland

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2 November 2015

To:  
Douglas Millican  
Chief Executive  
Scottish Water  
Castle House  
6 Castle Drive  
DUNFERMLINE  
KY11 8GG

Dear Mr Millican

### Information Letter 03/2015

### Regulation 33 approval of products and substances intended for disinfestation, disinfection or cleaning agents of waterworks apparatus and distribution systems.

#### Purpose

1. The purpose of this letter is to inform Scottish Water of a change in the policy and practice to the requirement for regulation 33 approval of those products and substances currently included in Section A4 of the List of Approved Products for use in the Public Water Supply in the United Kingdom.

#### Background

2. Regulation 33 prohibits Scottish Water from introducing or applying products and substances to water which is to be supplied for domestic purposes (generally regarded as drinking, washing cooking and food production). Scottish Water may however introduce or apply such products where *inter alia* such application or introduction has been approved under regulation 33(3)a by the Scottish Ministers. Approved products and substances, intended for disinfestation, disinfection or cleaning of waterworks apparatus and distribution systems, are included in section A4 of the [list of approved products](#) accessible on the website of the Drinking Water Inspectorate for England and Wales.
3. These products and substances are clearly intended to be used whilst plant/equipment is off line, with the product or substance being flushed away or its concentration reduced to a minimum, that gives rise to no, or negligible risk, to water

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quality, before the supply is resumed. A precautionary approach has been taken to date to require suppliers/manufacturers to apply for regulation 33 approval.

4. Since these substances and products are not intended to be introduced or applied to water intended to be supplied for domestic purposes, they do not come within the scope of regulation 33. In future, therefore, suppliers/manufacturers of substances and products intended to be used as described above will not be required to apply for approval under regulation 33 and any applications made will not be considered. The current listings in section A4 will remain until the five year period of validity has expired, after which they will be removed from the list and no renewal will be issued. Applicants for any product currently subject to renewal of approval or initial application will be contacted individually by the Drinking Water Inspectorate for England and Wales about their applications.

### **Action by Scottish Water**

5. Scottish Water should note the change in policy and practice as described above. If Scottish Water wish in future to use a product that is not currently listed in section A4, they should take a risk based approach to determine whether or not the use of such a product presents an acceptable risk, having taken any mitigating steps if necessary, to water quality.
6. Scottish Water should note this change only applies to those products and substances included in section A4 of the list.

### **General**

7. The Drinking Water Inspectorate for England and Wales will write to all approval holders whose products and substances are included in section A4 to explain how this change in policy and practice affects their inclusion in the list.

### **Enquiries**

Any enquiries regarding this letter should be made to Eleanor Vance on 0131 244 0190 or by email to [eleanor.vance@gov.scot](mailto:eleanor.vance@gov.scot). This letter has been sent electronically.

Yours sincerely



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