

Environment Agency
INFORMATION CENTRE



Environmental Assessment Guidelines



A procedure for ensuring environmental factors are taken into account in the design and implementation of land drainage improvement works.

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT GUIDELINES

1. Introduction

These guidelines have been prepared primarily to assist project managers to meet the requirements of the Land Drainage Improvement Works (Assessment of Environmental Effects) Regulations 1988, otherwise known as Statutory Instrument 1217. The management team of the N.R.A. Thames Region has agreed a policy statement on which these guidelines have been based. This statement along with a copy of the Statutory Instrument 1217 is reproduced as Appendix 1 of this report.

Statutory Instrument 1217 places an obligation on drainage bodies to decide whether by reason, inter-alia, of their nature, size and location proposed drainage improvements are likely to have significant environmental effects. If the decision is positive the drainage body must prepare an Environmental Statement. Irrespective of the decision on significance the drainage body must advertise the proposed improvements and allow time for representations. The key procedural steps laid down in the Instrument are summarised in Fig. 1 (Supplementary Information).

Local authorities are empowered, under Statutory Instrument 1199, to request an Environmental Statement for projects which require planning permission. They are only likely to do this in respect of very large projects and are most unlikely to do so where we had decided the environmental effects were not significant. These guidelines, therefore, concentrate on the requirements of Statutory Instrument 1217. Brief guidance is given in Section 8 on how to deal with those projects which fall within the ambit of Statutory Instrument 1217 and also require planning permission.

In producing these guidelines every attempt has been made to minimise bureaucracy. Where the guidelines stipulate that written records of decisions must be made it is for two important reasons. The first is to provide a good basis for dealing with representations made in response to the advertisements. This will be particularly important if they lead to disputes that have to be referred to the Minister. The second is to monitor the effectiveness of liaison procedures with environmental specialists and highlight any deficiencies.

Appendix 2 of this report shows the phases which must be followed in order to ensure compliance with the Instrument. It also sets down the principles of environmental consultation for projects which are excluded from Statutory Instrument 1217. Each of the phases is now described.

ENVIRONMENT AGENCY



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2. Phase 1 - Screening

Projects are screened to determine (a) whether they fall within the ambit of Statutory Instrument 1217 and (b) whether input from environmental specialists is warranted.

A decision on (a) is made by the project manager after consulting Appendix 3 of this report. Any doubts should be referred to his/her Senior Manager and the outcome recorded in writing. Decisions on (b) are made after the project manager has submitted a brief summary of the project together with a location map to the internal environmental specialists. These are listed in Appendix 4. In order to screen projects successfully their scope (area covered, type, size and contract duration of the possible options) must be broadly assessed. Their decisions must be recorded in writing, either through the agreed notes of a meeting or by internal memoranda. The initiative for recording these decisions lies with the project manager.

A full list of environmental factors that may need to be considered is given as Table 1 (Supplementary Information). Some of these are outside the expertise of the internal environmental specialists. If these are pertinent to the project other environmental specialists may need to be commissioned by the project manager to deal with them. Funds for this should be made available as part of the project implementation costs.

3. Phase 2 - Review : Need for Environmental Statement

Projects for which the answers to both (a) and (b) above are positive are reviewed jointly by project managers and environmental specialists to make an initial decision on the likelihood of an Environmental Statement being needed. This will require an assessment of the possible significance of any environmental effects, both during construction and in the end-state condition. Annex A (Supplementary Information) offers guidance on the determination of significance. Site visits may be needed before this initial decision is made, along with discussions with outside bodies and some survey work if data are not available. It is therefore vital that consultations between the relevant internal departments are set up by the project manager at the onset of the project.

Decisions of the environmental specialists must be recorded in writing either through the agreed minutes of a meeting or by letters/memoranda. The responsibility for recording these decisions lies with the project manager.

There will be projects for which the answer to (a) is negative but where a positive answer to (b) is given by internal environmental specialists. Their input should be sought in such cases to ensure we comply with our general environmental responsibilities laid down in the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 and Water Act 1989. It should be made as described in Phase 3 but because the project is outside the ambit of the Statutory Instrument there would be no need for decisions to be made regarding significance. Phases 2 and 4 would not apply but the advice given in Section 6 of this report (Implementation and Monitoring) should still be followed.

4. Phase 3 - Assessment and Design

This is the most important phase. Input to the option review and subsequent detailed design of the project is made by environmental specialists to minimise adverse impact, ensure appropriate reinstatement and compensatory measures are taken and take advantage of enhancement opportunities. They will advise on the extent to which outside environmental groups should be involved and will take steps to consult them at appropriate stages.

Projects for which the initial decision of Phase 2 was positive will require comprehensive environmental surveys leading to some form of impact matrix. An example is given in Fig. 2 (Supplementary Information). By means of an iterative process, whereby changes are made to the engineering design and the environmental impact is re-assessed, the best environmental option is selected. A decision must then be made as to whether the impact of the project, as finally designed, will still be significant. This must be done by the project manager obtaining the written views of those environmental specialists who have been involved. These must be recorded either through the agreed minutes of a meeting or by letters/memoranda.

Projects for which the initial decision of Phase 2 was negative should be dealt with in much the same way although the amount of survey work and the need for matrices etc., will be reduced. Once a final design has been produced a decision must be made as to whether the impact will still be insignificant. This must be done by the project manager as described above. Final designs should show the features that have been included which will result in environmental enhancement and which might be seen as helping to balance adverse impacts.

Where there are differences of opinion between the project manager and environmental specialists as to the significance of impacts the matter should be referred to the relevant Senior managers.

5. Phase 4 - Documentation

For each project, the project manager must obtain and keep the written records of decisions referred to above. **CONTRACTS SHOULD NOT BE LET WHERE SUCH RECORDS ARE INCOMPLETE.** Written comments from environmental and other specialists should be presented in a manner that allows public inspection without adjustment to the text.

The project manager is responsible for advertising the intention to implement all projects falling within the ambit of Statutory Instrument 1217 and for ensuring that Environmental Statements are produced and distributed where these are considered necessary. Annex B (Supplementary Information) gives guidance on the layout and contents of such a statement. The need for these is expected to be rare and their production is likely to require the services of an experienced consultant.

Where it is agreed that the environmental effects of a project falling within the ambit of the Statutory Instrument will not be significant the project manager must produce a "Written Justification." Appendix 5 of this report gives guidance on the layout and contents. Each one will briefly explain the purpose of the project, the considerations that have been given to minimising adverse environmental effects and will justify why an Environmental Statement is considered unnecessary.

- b) However, where a "Written Justification" is deemed appropriate and an Environmental Statement is unnecessary, MAFF have confirmed that grant will not be payable on external resources costs.

This is an unbalanced argument as for many projects the decision as to whether a Written Justification or an Environmental Statement will be prepared is not often known until the later stages of the project assessment and design (Phase 3) and the early stages of Documentation (Phase 4). Refer to Appendix 2.

MAFF may well need to review this situation in due course but their position is fixed for the present.

- c) By inference, MAFF grant is not payable at all on any works considered to fall outside the ambit of SI 1217 - i.e., the Exclusion List Appendix 3. The judgment has been made that very minor works to isolated properties within the flood plain should be included in this category, even where they are part of an extensive flood alleviation scheme (e.g. River Colne).
- d) In order to ensure that Grant Aid on external resources costs is not missed, it will be necessary to formally write to MAFF for all works on the inclusion list informing them of our intentions to employ external resources in order to comply with these Environmental Assessment Guidelines and receive approval to proceed without prejudice from MAFF. Where subsequently Environmental Statements are prepared, grant will be claimable.

It is judged that for projects or works requiring the employment of external resources for this purpose at an estimated cost of £5,000 or less per project/contract or section of works, MAFF Grant Aid should not be applied for, although if the works come within the Inclusion List, SI 1217 will need to be satisfied.

8. Projects which require Planning Permission

Some projects which are on the "Inclusion List" (Appendix 3) will also require planning permission. These should be dealt with in accordance with these guidelines up to and including the point when either a Written Justification or Environmental Statement is produced but the intention to implement the project should not be advertised by us.

Early consultation should take place with the local planning authority over these projects to establish whether they have any particular requirements. Unless otherwise specified by them a copy of the Written Justification or Environmental statement should be submitted with the planning application. This should be accompanied by a letter explaining that, had it not required planning permission we would have advertised our intention to implement the project in accordance with Statutory Instrument 1217 and would have made available copies of the Written Justification or Environmental Statement. The letter should invite the local planning authority to consider advertising our position regarding the Written Justification or Environmental Statement as part of their consideration of our planning application, keeping the project manager informed of any representations received. It should be made clear that we would wish to liaise promptly and directly with anybody raising an objection.

Local planning authorities are empowered under Statutory Instrument 1199 to make their own decisions on "significance" of environmental effects, but guidance they have received from Government means it is unlikely that their views will differ from those which we put forward. If this happens the matter should be referred to the relevant Senior Manager.

APPENDIX 1

POLICY STATEMENT

The Thames Region of the National Rivers Authority will comply with the requirements of Statutory Instrument 1217 as follows:

1. The over-riding aim will be to ensure that scheme options are chosen and projects are designed in a way that (a) minimises adverse environmental impact, (b) allows for mitigation and reinstatement and (c) includes reasonable environmental enhancements.
2. For projects within the ambit of S.I. 1217 the aim should be to carry out 1 above such that environmental effects are agreed to be insignificant.
3. The above will be achieved by full consultation with and input from environmental specialists in accordance with the Environmental Assessment Guidelines.
4. The Guidelines will contain an in-built audit system for projects within the ambit of S.I. 1217 to ensure that adequate consultation takes place, environmental considerations have been taken account of, all decisions are properly recorded and no action is taken to implement a project until each stage has been "signed off".
5. Responsibility for initiating consultation, recording decisions and preparing appropriate documentation will lie with the department which has the task of implementing the project.
6. Where the environmental effects of projects within the ambit of S.I. 1217 are considered to be insignificant a "Written Justification" will be produced to summarise how the work will be done and the reasons for this decision.

1988 No. 1217

LAND DRAINAGE

The Land Drainage Improvement Works (Assessment of Environmental Effects) Regulations 1988

Made - - - - - 13th July 1988

*Coming into force in accordance
with regulation 1(1)* 16th July 1988

The Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food and the Secretary of State for Wales, acting jointly, being Ministers designated(a) for the purposes of section 2(2) of the European Communities Act 1972(b) in relation to measures relating to the requirement for an assessment of the impact on the environment of projects likely to have significant effects on the environment, in exercise of the powers conferred upon them by the said section 2(2) and of all other powers enabling them in that behalf, hereby make the following Regulations of which a draft has been laid before and approved by resolution of each House of Parliament:

Title, application and commencement

1.—(1) These Regulations, which apply to England and Wales only, may be cited as the Land Drainage Improvement Works (Assessment of Environmental Effects) Regulations 1988, and shall come into force on the third day after the day on which they are made.

(2) These Regulations shall not apply in the case of improvement works commenced before these Regulations come into force.

Interpretation

2.—(1) In these Regulations –

“the appropriate Minister” means, in relation to England, the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, and in relation to Wales, the Secretary of State for Wales;

“the Court” means the County Court for the district in which improvement works which are being carried out are situated or the High Court;

“drainage” includes defence against water including sea water;

“drainage body” means –

- (a) a water authority;
- (b) an internal drainage board;
- (c) the council of a county, district or London borough or the Common Council of the City of London;

“environmental statement” has the meaning assigned to it by the Schedule to these Regulations;

“improvement works” means works which deepen, widen, straighten or otherwise improve any existing watercourse or remove or alter mill dams, weirs or other obstructions to watercourses, or raise, widen or otherwise improve any existing drainage work;

“watercourse” includes all rivers and streams and all ditches, drains, cuts, culverts, dikes, sluices, sewers (other than public sewers within the meaning of the Public Health Act 1936(a)) and passages through which water flows.

(2) Any reference in these Regulations to a numbered regulation shall be construed as a reference to the regulation bearing that number in these Regulations.

Requirement for environmental statement

3.—(1) No drainage body shall carry out any improvement works unless they have first completed the procedure prescribed by these Regulations.

(2) Where a drainage body propose to carry out any improvement works they shall consider whether, by reason inter alia of their nature, size or location, the proposed works are likely to have significant effects on the environment and ought therefore to be made the subject of an environmental statement, and shall then, by notice in at least two local newspapers –

- (a) announce that they propose to carry out the improvement works in question;
- (b) describe briefly the nature, size and location of the proposed improvement works;
- (c) state whether or not they propose to prepare an environmental statement in respect of the proposed improvement works; and
- (d) if they propose not to prepare such a statement, give notice that any person or body who wishes to do so may make representations to them in writing in relation to the likely environmental effects with regard to that proposal at an address specified in the notice within 28 days of the date of publication of the notice.

(3) Where no representations made in accordance with paragraph (2)(d) above are received in relation to proposed improvement works within the time specified the drainage body may proceed to carry out those works without preparing an environmental statement.

Preparation of environmental statement

4.—(1) Where a drainage body have stated in pursuance of regulation 3(2)(c) that they propose to prepare an environmental statement in relation to proposed improvement works that body shall proceed to prepare such a statement.

(2) The drainage body shall consider any representations made in accordance with regulation 3(2)(d), and if, having done so, –

- (a) the drainage body decide to prepare such an environmental statement, they shall so inform those persons or bodies who have made representations, and shall proceed to prepare the statement; or
- (b) if they decide not to prepare such a statement they shall apply to the appropriate Minister for his direction as to whether an environmental statement is required, providing him with all the relevant facts and copies of all relevant documents in their possession.

(3) Where the appropriate Minister considers that the information put before him in pursuance of paragraph (2)(b) above does not provide him with sufficient information to enable him to give a direction he shall notify the drainage body in writing of the points on which he requires further information, and may make a written request to that body for such information as they may be able to provide on the points raised.

(a) 1936 c.49.

(4) Where an application for a direction is made to the appropriate Minister under paragraph (2)(b) above, the Minister shall, on the basis of the considerations referred to in regulation 3(2), the information supplied to him under paragraph (2)(b) above and any information provided pursuant to paragraph (3) above, give his direction accordingly, and inform the drainage body or bodies and those persons who made representations of his decision.

(5) If the appropriate Minister directs that an environmental statement is required, the drainage body which applied for his direction shall forthwith proceed to prepare one.

Publicity for environmental statements

5. Where an environmental statement has been prepared as required by these Regulations the drainage body shall –

- (a) by notice in at least two local newspapers announce the preparation of the statement including details of the time and place where copies may be inspected by members of the public at all reasonable times and stating that any person or body wishing to make representations in relation to the likely environmental effects regarding the works to which the statement relates should make them in writing to the drainage body at the address specified in the notice within 28 days from the publication of the notice; and
- (b) at the same time as the notice is published, supply copies of it to –
 - (i) the Nature Conservancy Council;
 - (ii) the Countryside Commission; and
 - (iii) any other public authority, statutory body or organisation which appears to them to have an interest in the matter;
- (c) provide copies of the statement on request to interested members of the public.

Charges

6. A reasonable charge reflecting printing and distribution costs may be made to a member of the public for a copy of an environmental statement made available in accordance with regulation 5(c) and for any copy in excess of one of the whole or part of a statement supplied to a body pursuant to regulation 5(b).

Provision of information

7.—(1) Subject to paragraph (2) below, where a drainage body propose to or are required to prepare an environmental statement they may enter into consultations with any organisation to determine whether that organisation has in its possession any information which the drainage body considers relevant to the preparation of a statement, and if they have, the organisation shall make such information available to the drainage body.

(2) Nothing in paragraph (1) above shall require the disclosure by any organisation of confidential information.

(3) A reasonable charge reflecting the cost of making the relevant information available may be made by any organisation supplying it.

Consent to improvement works

8.—(1) Where an environmental statement has been prepared in accordance with these Regulations, the drainage body shall consider the proposal and that statement and any representations and comments made thereon by any person or body in relation to the likely environmental effects which are received by the drainage body within the time limit specified in regulation 5(a).

(2) Where having carried out the requirements of paragraph (1) above the drainage body consider that the improvement works should proceed and any objections to those works made in relation to their likely environmental effects by any person or body have been withdrawn the drainage body may decide to proceed with the works.

(3) Where having carried out the requirements of paragraph (1) above a drainage body consider that the improvement works should proceed but there are objections to those works made in relation to their likely environmental effects by any person or body which have not been withdrawn, the drainage body shall refer the proposal for works together with the environmental statement and any representations and comments on it to the appropriate Minister for his decision.

(4) Where the appropriate Minister considers that the information put before him in pursuance of paragraph (3) above does not provide him with sufficient information to enable him to give a direction he shall notify the drainage body in writing of the points on which he requires further information, and may make a written request to that body for such information as they may be able to provide on the points raised.

(5) The appropriate Minister after –

- (a) considering any proposal, statement, representations and comments referred to him under paragraph (3) above and any information provided pursuant to paragraph (4) above; and
- (b) having regard both to the effect of the proposed works on the environment and to the desirability of those works being carried out in the interests of efficient land drainage,

may consent to the carrying out of the proposed improvement works either absolutely or subject to such conditions as he considers appropriate or refuse consent to such works, and shall inform the drainage body and those persons or bodies who made representations of his decision and the reasons and considerations upon which it was based.

Enforcement

9.—(1) If a drainage body carries out improvement works –

- (a) without first observing the requirements of these Regulations; or
- (b) without the consent of the appropriate Minister under regulation 8(5) above where a proposal is referred to that Minister under regulation 8(3), or in breach of a condition of such a consent,

the appropriate Minister may apply to the Court for an order requiring that the drainage body shall not proceed with the works and shall remove any works already carried out and reinstate the site.

(2) An order made pursuant to paragraph (1) above may provide that, if the drainage body fails to comply with the order within a specified period, the appropriate Minister may remove the works and reinstate the site himself and recover the reasonable costs and expenses of doing so from the drainage body as a debt due from that body.

In witness whereof the Official Seal of the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food is hereunto affixed on 13th July 1988.



John MacGregor
Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food

12th July 1988

Ian Grist
Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Welsh Office

THE SCHEDULE

Regulation 2

1. The term "environmental statement" shall be construed in accordance with the following provisions of this Schedule.

2. An environmental statement comprises a document or series of documents providing, for the purpose of assessing the likely impact of the proposed improvement works upon the environment, the information specified in paragraph 3 (referred to in this Schedule as "the specified information").

3. The specified information is –

- a. a description of the improvement works proposed, comprising information about the site and the design and size or scale of the improvement works;
- b. the data necessary to identify and assess the main effects which the improvement works are likely to have on the environment;
- c. a description of the likely significant effects, direct and indirect, on the environment of the improvement works, explained by reference to possible impact on –
human beings;
flora;
fauna;
soil;
water;
air;
climate;
the landscape;
the interaction between any of the foregoing;
material assets;
the cultural heritage;
- d. where significant adverse effects are identified with respect to any of the foregoing, a description of the measures envisaged in order to avoid, reduce or remedy those effects; and
- e. a summary in non-technical language of the information specified above.

4. An environmental statement may include, by way of explanation or amplification of any specified information, further information on any of the following matters –

- (a) the physical characteristics of the proposed improvement works, the nature and quality of the materials to be used and the land-use requirements during the construction and operational phases;
- (b) the estimated type and quantity of expected residues and emissions (including pollutants of water, air or soil, noise, vibration, light, heat and radiation) resulting from the proposed improvement works when in operation;
- (c) (in outline) the main alternatives (if any) studied by the drainage body and an indication of the main reasons for choosing the improvement works proposed, taking into account the environmental effects;
- (d) the likely significant direct and indirect effects on the environment of the improvement works proposed which may result from –
 - (i) the use of natural resources;
 - (ii) the emission of pollutants, the creation of nuisances and the elimination of waste;
- (e) the forecasting methods used to assess any effects on the environment about which information is given under subparagraph (d); and
- (f) any difficulties, such as technical deficiencies or lack of know-how, encountered in compiling any item of specified information.

In paragraph (d), "effects" includes secondary, cumulative, short, medium and long-term, permanent, temporary, positive and negative effects.

5. Where further information is included in an environmental statement pursuant to paragraph 4, a non-technical summary of that information shall also be provided.

6. The appropriate Minister may make available to the drainage body any information in his possession (not being information provided to him in confidence) which is relevant to the preparation of the environmental statement.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Regulations)

These Regulations implement for England and Wales, in respect of land drainage improvement works proposed by a water authority, internal drainage board or local authority ("the drainage body"), the Council Directive 85/337/EEC on the assessment of the effects of certain public and private projects on the environment (O.J. No. L175, 5.7.85, p.40). They provide a procedure for the provision of an environmental statement covering the matters specified in the Schedule, relating to such improvements by the drainage body where that body considers that by reason of, inter alia, their nature, size or location the proposed works are likely to have a significant effect on the environment (regulation 3).

The drainage body is required to give notice of proposed works in two local papers, stating whether it intends to prepare an environmental statement. If representations concerning the likely environmental effects are then made by persons in a case where the drainage body proposes not to prepare a statement, the proposals must be referred to the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food (in relation to England) or the Secretary of State for Wales (in relation to Wales). The drainage body must then prepare an environmental statement if the appropriate Minister so directs (regulations 3 and 4).

Where a statement is prepared, the drainage body shall announce its preparation in two local newspapers, and supply copies to interested bodies. In a case where no environmental objection to a proposal is maintained the drainage body may decide to proceed with the works. Where such an objection is made and not withdrawn the drainage body shall refer the decision as to whether the works are carried out to the appropriate Minister, who shall inform the drainage body and those persons who made representations of his decision (regulations 5 and 8).

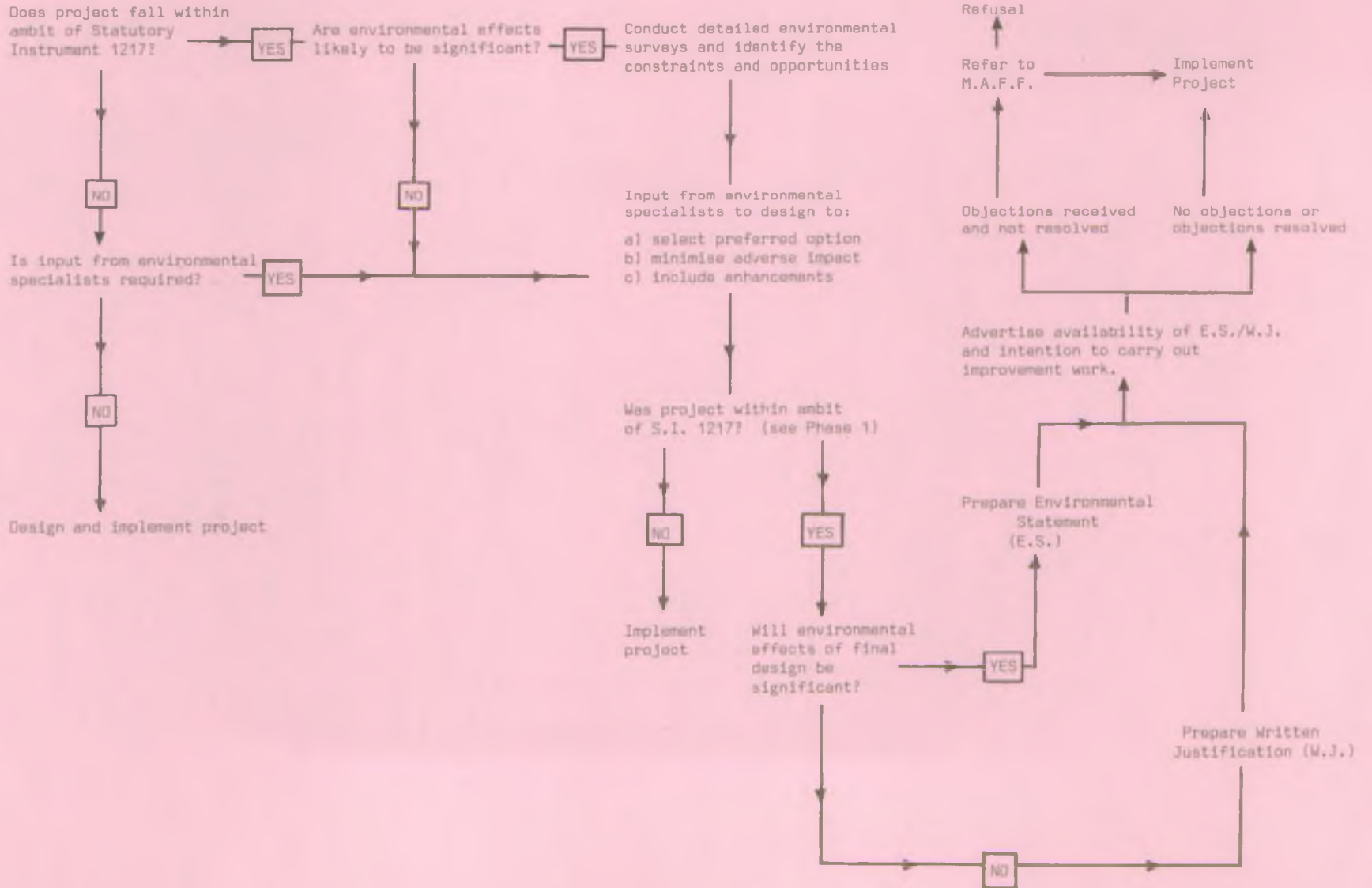
APPENDIX 2

PHASE 1 SCREENING

PHASE 2 REVIEW

PHASE 3 ASSESSMENT AND DESIGN

PHASE 4 DOCUMENTATION



APPENDIX 3

1 Inclusion List

The following works are considered to fall within the definition of a "drainage improvement" and therefore within the ambit of Statutory Instrument 1217 (regardless of "significance" of environmental effects).

- a) Bank protection for drainage/flood defence reasons.
- b) Channel renewal - piling, walls, tidal defences, etc..
(i.e., asset renewal works)
- c) Culverts
- d) Dredging
- e) Flood alleviation works
- f) Sluices and flow control structures
- g) Weed cutting which has consequences on water levels
- h) Weirs and weir alterations
- i) New locks where impounding is necessary
- j) Construction of flood storage reservoirs
- k) Construction of new tidal defences
- l) Major flood alleviation schemes where works can be individually isolated from each other, e.g., Lower Colne
- m) Construction of new flood embankments within the flood plain at a distance from the watercourse
- n) Major flood alleviation schemes where new flood or diversion channels are involved.

[n.b. it is expected that works of type (n) will normally be of a scale likely to result in significant effects on the environment and automatically require the preparation of an Environmental Statement]

2 Exclusion List

The following works are considered to fall outside the definition of "drainage improvement" and therefore outside the ambit of Statutory Instrument 1217.

- a) Bridges (not integral with flood alleviation schemes)
- b) Aqueducts
- c) Modification or renewal of existing locks
- d) Works to lock houses
- e) Sanitary stations
- f) Maintenance of existing tidal defences
- g) Navigation laybys or moorings
- h) Channel access ramps
- i) Minor modifications to assets where water levels are not affected.
- j) Flow gauging stations
- k) Minor works to isolated properties within the flood plain where located at a distance from the watercourse
- l) Low flow amelioration works

It should be noted that works in both lists may be subject to planning permission. In such cases the planning authority may require an Environmental Statement under Statutory Instrument 1199.

APPENDIX 4

Internal Environmental Specialists

1 Fisheries a) Upper Thames Fisheries Area:

Catchments of Rivers Churn, Ray, Cole, Coln, Windrush, Evenlode, Cherwell, Ock and Thame. River Thames upstream of Cleeve weir.

Contact: Vaughan Lewis, Area Fisheries Officer, Denton House, Iffley Turn, Oxford OX4 4HJ Tel. (0865) 716677.

b) Mid-Thames Fisheries Area:

Catchments of Rivers Kennet, Lambourn, Whitewater, Blackwater and Wey. River Thames upstream of Molesey weir.

Contact: John Sutton, Area Fisheries Officer, Ladymead, By-pass Road, Guildford, Surrey GU1 1BZ Tel. (0483) 577655.

c) Thames East Fisheries Area:

Catchments of Rivers Misbourne, Colne, Ver, Lee, Stort and Roding.

Contact: Mark Pilcher, Area Fisheries Officer, Aspen House, The Grange, Crossbrook Street, Waltham Cross, Herts EN8 8LX Tel. (0992) 23611.

d) Thames Metropolitan Fisheries Area:

Catchments of Rivers Mole, Cray and Darent. River Thames downstream of Molesey weir to the Yantlet Line.

Contact: Steve Colclough, Area Fisheries Officer, Rivers House, Crossness Sewage Treatment Works, Abbey Wood, London SE2 9AQ Tel. 01-310 5500.

2 Wildlife Conservation

For entire catchment contact Alastair Driver, Conservation Officer, N.R.A. Unit, Nugent House, Vastern Road, Reading, Berks. RG1 8DB
Tel. (0734) 593530.

3 Landscape

For entire catchment contact Richard Copas, Landscape Architect, N.R.A. Unit, Nugent House, Vastern Road, Reading, Berks. RG1 8DB
Tel. (0734) 593728.

4 Pollution Control, Biological Monitoring, Groundwater Protection

For entire catchment contact Roger Sweeting, Chief Biologist, N.R.A. Unit,
Fobney Mead, Rose Kiln Lane, Reading, Berks. RG2 0SF
Tel. (0734) 311422.

APPENDIX 5

Preparation of a "Written Justification"

This should contain all the relevant details but must be succinct. In some cases a single sentence under the heading will be sufficient.

The headings to be used are as follows:-

1. Preface This should be followed by the two sentences below:

"The Land Drainage Improvement Works (Assessment of Environmental Effects) Regulations 1988 (Statutory Instrument 1217) places an obligation on any drainage body proposing to carry out certain drainage improvement works to consider whether they are likely to have significant environmental effects and, therefore, require the preparation of an Environmental Statement. It is the intention of the Thames Region of the National Rivers Authority to provide a "Written Justification" in every case where it is considered that such a Statement is not required."
2. Introduction This should be followed by a sentence or two explaining where the works are to be carried out and drawing attention to the structure of the report.
3. The existing environment This should be followed by a sentence or two describing the general setting of the proposed works, e.g. rural, urban, residential, industrial, etc., etc..
4. The problem, alternative solutions and proposed works This should be followed by a brief explanation of why work is needed, what alternatives to solve the problem have been studied and a more detailed explanation of which of these constitutes the 'proposed works'. If no alternatives were studied then the words 'alternative solutions' should be omitted from the title.
5. Consultations This should be followed by a sentence or two detailing both internal and external consultations that have taken place in respect of environmental effects.
6. Potential impacts and mitigation/enhancement measures This should be dealt with under four sub-headings as follows:
 - 6.1 Impacts during construction and protection measures - brief description of what adverse impacts will arise and what will be done to minimise these.
 - 6.2 Long-term impacts - brief description of any long-term impacts e.g. loss of mature trees, loss of natural river bed/bank etc. If none, state "No permanent impacts are envisaged".
 - 6.3 Mitigation/enhancement measures - brief description of landscape reinstatement works (if any) and any features included in the design that will enhance the environment visually or as a wildlife habitat.
 - 6.4 Conclusion This should be followed by the sentence below, modified if necessary to suit the project.

"It is considered that because of the small scale of the works, the localised nature and proposed mitigation measures there are not likely to be significant effects on the environment."

7. Supporting documentation This should be followed by a sentence or two on the availability of additional information (e.g. environmental databases). If none exists then omit this heading.

Appendices

- a) Location plan (1:2500)
- b) Proposed works (simple sketch)
- c) Outline landscaping sketch scheme (if reinstatement/enhancement is proposed)
- d) Plan showing area currently flooded and area of residual flooding after proposed works (if works are part of a flood alleviation scheme)

N.B. For projects of a scale likely to generate a reasonable amount of outside interest (particularly amongst local riparian owners) a 'Summary' should be produced to go at the beginning of the report. This 'Summary' should be circulated externally, at the discretion of the project manager, as a public relations exercise in supporting the project implementation.

APPENDIX 6

STATUTORY NOTICE UNDER SECTION 3(2) OF THE LAND DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENT WORKS (ASSESSMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS) REGULATIONS 1988

It is the intention of the Thames Region of the National Rivers Authority to carry out drainage improvement works to the Quaggy River between Manor Park and Manor Lane, Lewisham. The proposed works will involve the construction of a new constrained channel and lowering of the bed level.

Having determined that the proposed works are not, by reason inter alia of their nature, size and location, likely to have significant environmental effects the Thames Region does not intend to prepare an Environmental Statement.

In accordance with clause 3(2)(d) of the Regulations representations are invited to be made to the Thames Region at the address given below, with regard to the decision not to prepare an Environmental Statement. The closing date for the receipt of representations is 16 December 1988.

A written justification setting out the reasons for the decision is available for inspection during normal working hours at the London Borough of Lewisham offices at Deptford Town Hall, New Cross Road and at Manor House Library, Old Road, or can be obtained by writing to Mr. A. Wright, Thames Region, National Rivers Authority, Howard House, 10-11 Albert Embankment, London SE1 7TG.