

**Environment Agency Guidelines For
Identifying Environmental Improvements
Qualifying for AMP3 Investment**

**Version 6.0
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ENVIRONMENT AGENCY GUIDELINES FOR IDENTIFYING ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENTS QUALIFYING FOR AMP3 INVESTMENT

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PREFACE

These criteria have been developed by the Environment Agency (the Agency) in consultation with the Department of Environment, Transport and the Regions (DETR) and English Nature. The present draft represents an early stage in the development of criteria which will allow the Water Industry to determine provisional cost estimates for the Periodic Review, for the period 2000 to 2005.

This costing will take place from November 1997 in line with the programme set by the Director General of Water Services. It is intended that these guidelines will accompany the OFWAT document, "PR 99 Information Requirements D Main Quality Costing Submission February 1998".

The purpose of this document is to establish clear criteria for the inclusion of schemes, to be carried out by the Water Industry, that are needed to improve or protect the environment for present and future generations. The document has been structured to allow the development a matrix of costs and priorities covering all the key headings under which investment may be required or justified. The aim is to add discipline to the process of assessing costs and setting priorities, to reduce the potential for the double counting of costs, and to allow a series of investment scenarios to be developed once the costs at scheme level have been established. The schemes for the individual Water Companies should be identified in conjunction with the Agency's Regions and according to the criteria in this document.

The criteria for investment include the new duties imposed upon the Environment Agency and the Water Industry by the Environment Act 1995 and other European Union (EU) and domestic requirements which have not been previously funded. The criteria in this document must be read in close association with the Environment Agency's Discharge Consent Manual (previously the NRA Discharge Consents manual, currently being updated) which includes the unabridged AMP 2 Guidelines in section 5.1.1.

This document focuses on schemes required during the period from 31 March 2000 to 31 March 2005 and will provide a platform for future environmental planning priorities. Improvements which have been scheduled to be started before 31 March 2000 are not dealt with here as they are already well defined and the majority of costs accounted for in the first quinquennium of AMP2.

The Agency will advise the Secretaries of State on the programme of environmental improvement schemes to meet EU and UK statutory requirements and to achieve improvements to the water environment where specific standards are not prescribed in legislation. The Secretaries of State will make the final decision on the scale and timing of the overall environmental programme which will be implemented by the Agency through its powers in relation to discharge consents, abstraction licences or other agreements. However, the Secretaries of State will have no discretion over the scale and timing of certain statutory improvements. For clarity these have been

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TOPIC : UWWTD Appropriate Treatment

1. Qualifying discharges

1.1 Discharges will only qualify for investment under this driver if:

the discharge will not conform to the basic requirements for discharges to inland waters by 31 December 1995 as specified in the Consents Manual section 5.1.1 (AMP2 Guidelines Chapter 2, para 2.3.2 and 2.3.3); or

the discharge does not conform to the basic requirements for discharges to estuarial and coastal waters as specified in Consents Manual section 5.1.1 (AMP2 Guidelines Chapter 3 and 3a).

1.2 Failure to meet the requirements of statutory or non-statutory water quality objectives will not qualify discharges for investment under this driver. Other EU Directive requirements are addressed separately and Appropriate Treatment does not relate to domestic water quality objectives (refer to - definition of 'appropriate treatment'- UWWTD Regulations 1994, 5(8)a).

2. Identification of improvements

Only minimum improvements which are additional to existing consent conditions and necessary for the qualifying discharge to meet the basic requirements, as specified above, will be eligible for investment under this driver.

3. The status of all improvements will be EU Directive - statutory assigned to the Core Environmental Programme.

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TOPIC : UWWTD High Natural Dispersion Areas and Comprehensive Studies

1. Qualifying discharges

Discharges will only qualify for investment under this driver if they are associated with a May 1994 HNDA designated water and require primary treatment in accordance with UWWTD Regulations 1994 and subsequent guidance issued by DoE in 1997 subject to a successful comprehensive study.

2. Identification of improvements

- 2.1 In the event of a successful Comprehensive Study primary treatment will be required (subject to 2.4 and 2.5 below) by 31 December 2000 or 31 December 2005 according to size of discharge.
- 2.2 In the event of an unsuccessful Comprehensive Study secondary treatment will be required (subject to 2.3 or 2.4) by 31 December 2000 or 31 December 2005 according to size of discharge.
- 2.3 Subject to the removal of HNDA status secondary treatment will be required within 7 years of its removal and primary treatment will be required by the original Article 4 deadline (if sooner).
- 2.4 Subject to the general review of HNDAs by the Secretary of State, to be completed by 31 December 97, secondary treatment may be required, within 7 years of HNDA removal and primary treatment will be required by the original Article 4 deadline (if sooner), where the Agency has recommended HNDA removal.
- 2.5 Subject to failure to secure an Article 8.5 derogation from the European Commission, secondary treatment will be required by 31 December 2000.

3. Status

- 3.1 The status of all improvements to primary treatment will be **EU Directive - statutory** assigned to the Core Environmental Programme.
- 3.2 The status of all improvements to secondary treatment will be **EU Directive - statutory** [Core*] assigned to the Non-Core Environmental Programme
- 3.3 The status of improvements to secondary treatment level, which relate to Agency recommended HNDA status removal (2.4) or unsuccessful determined Comprehensive Studies (2.2) will be **EU Directive - statutory subject to designation (2.4) or Agency**

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decision (2.2),[Core*], assigned to the Non-Core Environmental Programme.

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TOPIC : UWWTD Sensitive Areas (Eutrophic)
UWWTD Sensitive Areas (Nitrate)

1. Qualifying discharges

Discharges qualify for investment under this driver if :

- 1.1 Through growth the discharge will become a UWWTD Qualifying Discharge to an established Sensitive Area within the period 2000 -2010 and is likely to be required by the Agency to have P and/or N removal; or
- 1.2 The discharge is or, through growth, may become a UWWTD Qualifying Discharge within the period 2000 -2010, to a proposed Sensitive Area and has been confirmed by the Agency as requiring P and/or N removal;or
- 1.3 The discharge is or, through growth, may become a UWWTD Qualifying Discharge within the period 2000 -2010, to a proposed Sensitive Area, for which the Agency may require P and/or N removal subject to further assessment;or

2. Identification of improvements

Only the minimum improvement necessary to meet the requirements of UWWTD according to UWWTD Regulations 1994 and supplementary guidance issued by DETR in July 1997 will be eligible for investment under this driver.

For Sensitive Areas (Eutrophic), the discharge requirements are those for P and/or N specified in Schedule 3, Part 1, Table 2 of the UWWTD Regulations 1994, subject to assessment of whether that would have any effect, in accordance with Schedule 1, Part 1(a)(i) and (ii). These requirements do not apply if the alternative measures are applied in accordance with Regulation 5(3).

For Sensitive Areas (Nitrate), the discharge requirements will be some level of nitrogen removal, to be decided by the Agency on a case by case basis, unless the alternative measures are applied in accordance with Regulation 5(3).

3. Status

- 3.1 The status of improvements qualifying under criterion 1.1 will be EU Directive - statutory assigned to the Core Environmental Programme.
- 3.2 The status of improvements qualifying under criteria 1.2 and 1.3 will be EU Directive -

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statutory subject to confirmation), [Core*], assigned to the Non-Core Environmental Programme.

Definitions

"Established Sensitive Area"

A Sensitive Area (Eutrophic) designated by DETR in May 1994 or a Sensitive Area (Nitrate) designated in February 1997.

"Proposed Sensitive Area"

A candidate Sensitive Area (Eutrophic) or Sensitive Area (Nitrate) included in the Agency's national recommendations to Government for the purposes of the 1997 review of designations.

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TOPIC: UWWTD Intermittent discharges

1. Qualifying discharges

- 1.1 Discharges that have been assessed as unsatisfactory against the criteria laid down in the Consents Manual section 5.1.1 (AMP2 Guidelines section 4.4.1) and are specified on the Agency's agreed list of unsatisfactory CSOs but have not been provided for in the first quinquennium of AMP2. This includes discharges that have been displaced from the original AMP2 schedules by new higher priority schemes and with the agreement of the Agency.

2. Identification of improvements

- 2.1 Unsatisfactory discharges may be reprioritised from the order originally used to identify improvements in AMP2 based on new or improved information collected since 1994.

Only the minimum improvements necessary to meet the requirements specified in Consents Manual section 5.1.1 (AMP2 guidelines, sections 5,6) will be eligible for investment under this driver.

3. Status

- 3.1 The status of all improvements will be **EU Directive - statutory subject to agreed timescales [Core *]** assigned to the Non-Core Environmental Programme.

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TOPIC : COD

1. Qualifying Discharges

- 1.1 An allowance for COD removal was made in AMP2. Discharges are expected to meet the requirements of the UWWTD Regulations 5 (1) and (2) and companies should have been funded already. Where companies can show that specific improvements needed to meet COD requirements were not previously funded a specific case for funding can be considered.

2. Identification of improvements

- 2.1 Only the minimum improvements necessary to meet the COD requirements of the UWWTD Regulations 5 (1) and (2) will be eligible for investment under this driver.

3. Status

- 3.1 **EU Directives - statutory** assigned to the Core Environmental Programme.

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TOPIC : UWWTD Sludge

Cessation of sewage sludge disposal to sea in 1998 and the full implementation of the Urban Waste Water Treatment Directive in 2005 will generate an increased quantity of sewage sludge. There are currently 3 major options for disposal (land spreading, incineration, landfill).

1. Qualifying Sludge disposal facilities

- 1.1 Disposal facilities where work is not scheduled to start before 31 March 2000 but require improvement to meet UWWTD requirements.
- 1.2 Disposal facilities that require improvement over and above 1.1 to conform with the recommendations of the RCEP Report on Soil Protection 1996.
- 1.3 Disposal facilities that require improvement beyond 1.1 to meet limits set at the most stringent end of soil metal concentration ranges permitted under the EC Sludge to land Directive EC/86/278.
- 1.4 Disposal facilities that require improvement beyond 1.2 to meet limits set at the most stringent end of soil metal concentration ranges permitted under the EC Sludge to land Directive EC/86/278.

2. Identification of additional disposal facilities

- 2.1 Only the minimum requirements necessary to fully comply with current UK Regulations are required for criterion 1.1.
- 2.2 As 2.1 plus the improvement necessary to comply with RCEP Report recommendations
- 2.3 As 2.1 plus the improvements necessary to meet the most stringent implementation of Sludge to land Directive soil limits.
- 2.4 As 2.2 plus the improvements necessary to meet the most stringent interpretation of Sludge to land Directive soil limits.

3. Status

- 3.1 The status of costs arising under 2.1 to comply with UK Regulations (UWWT and Sludge to Agricultural Land) EU Directive - statutory assigned to the Core Environmental Programme.

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- 3.2 The status of costs under 2.2 will be **UK Statutory - subject to a decision on the recommendations of RCEP Report, [Core*]**, assigned to the Non-Core Environmental Programme.
- 3.3 The status of costs under 2.3 and 2.4 will be **UK Statutory subject to agreed standards, [Core*]**, assigned to the Non-Core Environmental Programme.

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TOPIC : Freshwater Fish Directive

1. Qualifying discharges

Discharges will only qualify for investment under this driver if:

- 1.1 River quality as *calculated*¹ from the present discharge quality fails to meet the Statutory Objective at the point of discharge, and this failure is confirmed by monitoring at the official sampling point, and has or will be reported to the DETR as part of the formal return on this Directive, and, furthermore, the failure is confirmed by monitoring as statistically significant; or
- 1.2 As 1.1 but this failure is not confirmed by monitoring as statistically significant; or
- 1.3 The river is *calculated* to fail the Statutory Objective at the official monitoring point if the discharge quality is the same as the Consented Quality; or
- 1.4 The discharge has no Consent for Ammonia (or any other relevant determinand) and the river is *calculated* to fail the Statutory Objective at the official monitoring point if the discharge quality gets worse than the present quality; or
- 1.5 The river is *calculated* to fail the Statutory Objective at the point of discharge, where this is within the designated stretch, if the discharge quality is the same as the Consented Quality; or
- 1.6 The discharge has no Consent for Ammonia (or any other relevant determinand) and the river is *calculated* to fail the Statutory Objective at the point of discharge, where this is within the designated stretch, if the discharge quality gets worse than the present quality.
- 1.7 As 1.1 to 1.6 but where the stretch has been identified by Agency for possible new designation.
- 1.8 As 1.1 to 1.4 but where the *calculated* river quality fails the Operational Standard for the stretch.

2. Identification of improvements

Only the minimum improvements necessary for qualifying discharges to meet the statutory

¹ here and elsewhere the term *calculation* means as assessed using methods in the Consents Manual

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requirements will be eligible for AMP3 funding under this driver. e.g if the existing consent does not specifically restrict the ammonia concentration but a limit would be necessary to secure statutory RQO compliance, the minimum extra treatment to meet the calculated consent limit will be eligible for AMP3 funding. Where an existing consent limit is not met but could be achieved by better operating practice or capital investment the works will not be eligible for AMP3 funding.

3. Status

- 3.1 The status of improvements qualifying under criteria 1.1 to 1.6 will be **EU Directive - statutory** assigned to the Core Environmental Programme.
- 3.2 The status of improvements qualifying under criterion 1.7 will be **EU Directive - statutory subject to designation, [Core*]**, assigned to the Non-Core Environmental Programme.
- 3.3 The status of improvements qualifying under criterion 1.8 will be **EU Directive - statutory subject to agreed standards and timescales, [Core*]**, assigned to the Non-Core Environmental Programme.

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TOPIC : First Time Rural Sewerage

Section 101A of the Water Industry Act 1991 (as amended by the Environment Act 1995) places a duty upon the sewerage undertaker to provide connection to the foul sewer where certain criteria are met. In AMP2 there has been some 'logging up' of costs for First Time Rural Sewerage by the water companies, although some costs have been absorbed into the current expenditure. In AMP3, the total cost of schemes will depend on the number of successful applications.

1. Qualifying Discharges

Discharges relating to successful applications made under Section 101A of the Water Industry Act 1991 before 1 September 1997 and not already funded in AMP2 will be eligible for additional AMP3 funding if engineering work is scheduled for the period (2000 - 2005).

Other applications may be dealt with by 'logging up'.

2. Identification of improvements

The requirements of new discharges apply in accordance with the Consents Manual.

3. Status

- 3.1** The status of all successful schemes will be **UK Statutory - Water Industry Act** assigned to the Core Environmental Programme.

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TOPIC : Groundwater Directive

1. Qualifying Discharges

WSpLc discharges direct to groundwater or indirect (i.e. on to or into land) requiring the tightening or introduction of a consent limit in order to address contraventions of a) or b) below.

- a) the requirement to prevent the introduction of List I substances into groundwater;
- b). the requirement to limit the introduction of List II substances into groundwater so as to prevent pollution.

In most cases investment will stem from (b) where a new consent limit is specified.

Discharges causing contraventions of a) and b) above which could be addressed through appropriate trade effluent control by the WSpLc will not qualify.

2. Identification of Improvements

Only the minimum improvement to meet the requirements specified above will be eligible for investment under this driver. These should relate to the need to improve treatment rather than improvements which could be achieved through tighter trade effluent control.

3. Status

- 3.1 The status of all improvements will be EU Directive - statutory assigned to the Core Environmental Programme.

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TOPIC : Shellfish Waters Directive

1. Qualifying discharges

Discharges will only qualify for investment under this driver if:

- 1.1 Water quality as *calculated* from the present discharge quality fails to meet the Statutory Objective at the point of discharge, and this failure is confirmed by monitoring at the official sampling point, and has or will be reported to the DETR as part of the formal return on this Directive, and, furthermore, the failure is confirmed by monitoring as statistically significant³; or
- 1.2 As 1.1, but this failure is not confirmed by monitoring as statistically significant; or
- 1.3 As 1.1 but the assessment is based on monitoring data alone and does not include quality predicted through calculation; or
- 1.4 As 1.2 but the assessment is based on monitoring data alone and does not include quality predicted through calculation; or
- 1.5 The water is *calculated* to fail the Statutory Objective at the official monitoring point if the discharge quality is the same as the Consented Quality; or
- 1.6 The discharge has no Consent for a particular parameter and the water is *calculated* to fail the Statutory Objective at the official monitoring point if the discharge quality gets worse than the present quality; or
- 1.7 The water is *calculated* to fail the Statutory Objective at the point of discharge if the discharge quality is the same as the Consented Quality; or
- 1.8 The discharge has no Consent for a particular parameter and the water is *calculated* to fail the Statutory Objective at the point of discharge if the discharge quality gets worse than the present quality.
- 1.9 As 1.1 to 1.8 using new standards arising from the government review of I value standards for metals and organo-halogens.
- 1.10 As 1.1 to 1.8 but where the water is not (yet) designated and the discharge may affect a classified harvesting area (including prohibited sites) under Shellfish Hygiene Directive.

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- 1.11 As 1.1, 1.2, 1.5 and 1.6 but where the *calculated* water quality fails the Operational Standard for that water. [For costing purposes a standard² of 1100/100ml (95% confidence limits 750-1450) as a 95 percentile should be assumed as a target for faecal coliforms]

Note: In 1.1 - 1.8 "Statutory Objective" means an "I" value.

In 1.10, "Operational Standard" means a standard set by the Agency further to its duty to endeavour to observe the "G" values and respect the principle of no increased pollution.

In 1.1 and 1.2, "statistically significant" means at 95% confidence

2. Identification of improvements

Only the minimum improvements necessary for qualifying discharges to meet the statutory requirements will be eligible for AMP3 funding under this driver. For example, if the existing consent does not specifically restrict a relevant parameter but a limit would be necessary to secure statutory compliance, the minimum extra treatment to meet the calculated consent limit will be eligible for AMP3 funding under this driver. Where an existing consent limit is not met but could be achieved by better operating practice or capital investment the works will not be eligible for AMP3 funding under this driver.

3. Status

- 3.1 The status of improvements qualifying under criteria 1.1 to 1.8 will be **EU Directive - statutory** assigned to the Core Environmental Programme.
- 3.2 The status of improvements qualifying under criterion 1.10 will be **EU Directive - statutory subject to designation, [Core*]**, assigned to the Non-Core Environmental Programme.
- 3.3 The status of improvements qualifying under criteria 1.9 and 1.11 will be **EU Directive - statutory subject to agreed standards and timescales, [Core*]**, assigned to the Non-Core Environmental Programme.

² Subject to DETR confirmation

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TOPIC : Surface Water Abstraction Directive

1. Qualifying discharges

Discharges will only qualify for investment under this driver if:

- 1.1 River quality as *calculated*³ from the present discharge quality fails to meet the Statutory Objective⁴ at the official monitoring point⁵, and this failure is confirmed by sampling at the official monitoring point, and has or will be reported to the DETR as part of the formal return on this Directive, and, furthermore, the failure is confirmed by monitoring as statistically significant⁶; or
- 1.2 As 1.1, but this failure is not confirmed by monitoring at the official monitoring point, as statistically significant; or
- 1.3 The river is *calculated* to fail the Statutory Objective at the official monitoring point if the discharge quality is the same as the Consented Quality; or
- 1.4 The discharge has no Consent for a relevant determinand and the river is *calculated* to fail the Statutory Objective at the official monitoring point if the discharge quality gets worse than the present quality; or
- 1.5 The river is *calculated* to fail the Statutory Objective at the point of discharge if the discharge quality is the same as the Consented Quality; or
- 1.6 The discharge has no Consent for a relevant determinand and the river is *calculated* to fail the Statutory Objective at the point of discharge if the discharge quality gets worse than the present quality.
- 1.7 As 1.1 to 1.4 but where the *calculated* river quality fails the Operational Standard for the stretch.

3 here and elsewhere the term *calculation* means as assessed using the methods in the Consents Manual

4 These are the Imperative Standards in the Directive.

5 This means a point associated with a formal notice establishing WQO for this Directive.

6 at 95% confidence

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2. Identification of improvements

Only the minimum improvements necessary for qualifying discharges to meet the statutory requirements will be eligible for AMP3 funding under this driver.

3. Status

- 3.1 The status of improvements qualifying under criteria 1.1 to 1.4 will be **EU Directive - statutory** assigned to the Core Environmental Programme.
- 3.2 The status of improvements qualifying under criterion 1.5 and 1.6 **EU Directive - discretionary** assigned to the Non-Core Environmental Programme.
- 3.3 The status of improvements qualifying under criterion 1.7 will be **EU Directive - statutory** subject to **agreed standards and timescales**, [Core*], assigned to the Non-Core Environmental Programme.

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TOPIC : Habitats Directive (Effluent Discharges)

1. Qualifying discharges

- 1.1 A discharge will only qualify for investment under this driver if it is on English Nature/Countryside Council for Wales (the conservation agencies) priority lists of STWs, and the Agency agrees, after consulting with the conservation agencies, that there is sufficient evidence of impact or risk (based on monitoring data and/or an understanding of the relationship between water quality and conservation value).
- 1.2 Other discharges may be identified as requiring improvements during the general review of consents for discharges which may affect SACs/SPAs, which will be undertaken by the Agency during 1998. Such situations are not considered further here, but will be candidates for future 'logging up'.

2. Identification of improvements

- 2.1 The conservation agencies are required to advise on Conservation Objectives (CO's) for each Special Area of Conservation or Special Protection Areas (SAC/SPA) to provide a basis for the review of consents by the Agency. These will normally equate to the Site Objective Statement for the relevant SSSI, although separate CO's are required for marine SACs. The CO's for each SAC/SPA should identify those habitats, plants and animals of European importance whose favourable conservation status is significantly influenced by water quality. Ideally, the conservation agencies will have also identified the nature of the link between the water quality of the site and its CO's. However, it is realised that the link between water quality and CO's may not have been defined for all sites, either because the data does not currently exist to allow this, or there is difficulty in scientifically defining this link. Improvements will therefore be identified using the following criteria:
 - i. Where a site's CO's have been identified formally, and these have been linked to water quality, then improvements should be costed to enable the discharge to meet the standards identified by the conservation agencies as being required to achieve the CO's of the site. [*This would include, amongst others, cases where eutrophication is adversely affecting a sites's CO's*].
 - ii. Where a site's CO's have been identified, but there is no proven link to water quality, improvements should be identified to ensure no deterioration from current discharge load. (By agreement with the conservation agencies, a listed scheme may not need to be costed at this stage provided proposals are made (in consultation with the conservation agencies) for further research or investigation, which could be used as part of the general review of consents affecting

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SACs/SPAs.)

- iii. Where a site's CO's have not yet been formally advised to the Agency, but it is clear that there are adverse water quality impacts on the flora and fauna of European importance, and these have been linked to the discharge in question, then a case should be constructed in consultation with the conservation agencies and the appropriate improvements costed.
- iv. Where a site's CO's have not yet been formally advised to the Agency but there is no proven link to water quality schemes should not be put forward for AMP3.

3. Status

- 3.1 The status of improvements identified under 2.1 (i) will be **EU Directive - statutory** assigned to the Core Environmental Programme.
- 3.2 The status of improvements identified under 2.1 (ii), & (iii) will be **EU Directive - statutory [Core*]** assigned to the Non-Core Environmental Programme.

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TOPIC : Habitats Directive (Abstractions)

1. Qualifying Abstractions

- 1.1 An abstraction will only qualify for investment under this driver if it is on the priority list of EN or CCW of Special Areas of Conservation or Special Protection Areas for birds at risk from abstraction. The abstraction should also have been assessed by the Agency to agree the degree of risk and the likely impact of individual licensed abstractions (or group of abstractions).
- 1.2 There may be further abstractions identified during the Agency's review of consents affecting SACs/SPAs due to commence in 1998 under The Conservation (Natural Habitats, &c.) Regulations 1994. If any of these show a serious impact from a water company abstraction, a scheme may subsequently be prepared and costed for inclusion in price limits or a future 'logging up' process.
- 1.3 There is a separate AMP3 Topic for Sites of Special Scientific Interest notified under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 which are not SACs/SPAs.

2. Identification of Improvements

- 2.1 The conservation agencies will be giving advice on the conservation objectives of SACs/SPAs. At this stage, a summary of the key features and the impacts on them from abstraction have been incorporated in a proforma for most sites.
- 2.2 It may not be possible in each case to define the precise alterations required to abstractions in order to sustain or restore the plants, animals or other features of European importance. Some of these may only require a percentage or seasonal reduction or provision of compensation water, others may require a borehole to be moved. However, it is important, where a European site is at risk and is drying out or otherwise affected by abstraction, that remedial action is not unduly delayed. Improvements will be identified using the following criteria:
 - i) where a SAC/SPA has evident problems from drying out or low freshwater flows and the role of water company abstractions has been clearly identified (by the Agency or the company itself), costings should be prepared according to a specification for a revised abstraction licence provided by the Agency, or to the levels indicated by the conservation agencies (eg, in the proforma);
 - ii) where a SAC/SPA has obvious problems of drying out or low freshwater flows and the plants or animals are at high risk, but the precise relationship with an abstraction affecting the site has not yet been calculated, a scheme should be

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costed using the best estimate of the Environment Agency's specification for a revised abstraction licence or the levels indicated by the conservation agencies (eg, in the proforma). Costs should include expenditure required to complete investigations;

- iii) where there is concern about the impact of abstraction on a SAC/SPA, but the plants or animals are not currently at high risk, further investigations may be carried out by agreement between the Agency and the relevant conservation agency and the results incorporated in the review of consents (see 1.2 above), for future logging up. At this stage, companies should only include the costs of any investigations required to determine the measures needed to protect the conservation interests of the site;
- iv) where a SAC\SPA has been identified as drying out or having low freshwater flows (eg in a report prepared by a wildlife body) but it has been agreed between the Agency and the relevant conservation agency that this is not due to a water company abstraction (even though there may be one nearby), no scheme should be costed.

3. Status

- 3.1 The status of improvements identified under 2.2 (i) will be **EU Directive - statutory** assigned to the Core Environmental Programme.
- 3.2 The status of improvements identified under 2.2 (ii), & (iii) will be **EU Directive - statutory [Core*]** assigned to the Non-Core Environmental Programme.

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TOPIC : Bathing Waters Directive

In July 1997 the Agency issued its Policy for Sewage Effluent Discharges Affecting Bathing Waters (the Bathing Waters Policy), which is intended to remain in force pending the outcome of collaborative R&D focussed on enteroviruses.

These Guidelines relate to the implementation of that policy and to possible changes to that policy. Any changes to the policy occurring after the AMP -3 cost estimate preparation period which incur extra costs to discharges will be treated as new obligations.

1. Qualifying discharges

In case of doubt in implementing this Guideline refer to the Policy document.

1.1 Discharges will qualify for consideration for improvement pursuant to the Bathing Waters Policy within AMP-3 under this driver if they are:

- 1.1.1** -discharges that by July 1997 were identified as Bathing Waters schemes, with time limited improvement extending within the AMP-3 period;
- 1.1.2** -discharges requiring improvement under UWWT Directive and which may in spite of or as result of such improvement impinge on Bathing Waters contrary to the EA Bathing Waters Policy;
- 1.1.3** -discharges that, subsequent to identification of an EC Bathing Water, have been identified as contributing to failure⁷ to achieve the Mandatory Bathing Waters Standards ;
- 1.1.4** -discharges judged by the Agency as likely to contribute to failures of the Directive, but where investigative studies to determine cause of failure are still to be completed as of November 1997;
- 1.1.5** -discharges likely to cause failure to achieve the Mandatory Bathing Waters Standards relating to waters currently under consideration by DETR for identification as Bathing Waters;
- 1.1.6** -candidates for improvement schemes to achieve or maintain "G" standards;

⁷ as judged by the established rules for assessing compliance with the Directive

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- 1.1.6.1 For discharges to be considered as candidates for improvement to achieve "G" standards:-
- a) they must not have been subject to recent AMP1/2 investment targeted at achievement of Mandatory Bathing Water Standards;
 - b) they must not be due to benefit from an AMP-2 scheme targeted at Mandatory Bathing Water Standards standards;
 - c) they must be a significant input of micro organisms to the Bathing Water resulting in non compliance with "G" Standards.
- 1.1.6.2 For discharges to be considered as candidates for improvement to maintain "G" standard compliance or "no deterioration":-
- a) monitoring over previous seasons must have shown general compliance with "G" standards, or consistently better quality than "G" standard.
 - b) a recent deterioration in water quality has occurred attributable to the discharge.
- 1.1.7 - they are to newly identified Bathing Waters and on the basis of at least 3 seasons data the Bathing Water is identified as being at risk of failure of Mandatory Bathing Water Standards due to the discharge.
- 1.2 For the purpose of evaluating possible changes to Agency policy all discharges should be identified which may require improvement to meet the following water quality criteria:-
- 1.2.1 As the Imperative and Guideline standards of the current Directive, along the lines of the "Halcrow" Report scenario B:-ie.
- Total coliforms not to exceed 10,000/100ml in 95 percent of samples and 500/100ml in 80 percent of samples; E.coli not to exceed 2,000/100ml in 95 percent of samples and 100/100ml in 80 percent of samples, and faecal streptococci not to exceed 100/100ml in 90 percent of samples. Enterovirus and Salmonella compliance to be assessed in accordance with current Environment Agency policy (July97).
- 1.2.2 As the water quality in the proposed Directive, along the lines of the "Halcrow" Report scenario A:-ie.
- Enterovirus concentration not to exceed 0 pfu/10 litres in 95 percent of samples,

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and concentrations of E.coli and faecal streptococci are not to exceed 2000/100ml and 400/100ml in 95 percent of samples respectively.

- 1.3 Improvements to meet the requirements of any future changes to EA policy (following R&D or successful legal challenge) do not qualify, and will be treated as a new obligation.

2. Identification of Improvements

- 2.1 The minimum design standards for continuous and intermittent discharges are set out in the Policy for Consents for Sewage Effluent Discharges Affecting Bathing Waters, and must be used as the basis for identification of required improvements under criterion 1.1.

- 2.2 The identification of improvements under criterion 1.2 must follow the criteria set out in Agency policy so far as is consistent with the target compliance required, and divergence from these criteria to achieve the objective shall be identified.

3. Status

- 3.1 The status of improvements qualifying under criteria 1.1.1, 1.1.2, 1.1.3, & 1.1.6.2 will be **EU Directive - statutory** assigned to the Core Environmental Programme.

- 3.2 The status of improvements qualifying under criterion 1.1.4, & 1.1.7 will be **EU Directive - statutory subject to confirmation, [Core*]**, assigned to the Non-Core Environmental Programme.

- 3.3 The status of improvements qualifying under criterion, 1.1.5 will be **EU Directive - statutory subject to designation. agreed standards and timescales, [Core*]**, assigned to the Non-Core Environmental Programme.

- 3.4 The status of improvements qualifying under criterion, 1.1.6.1 will be **EU Directive - statutory subject to agreed standards and timescales, [Core*]**, assigned to the Non-Core Environmental Programme.

- 3.5 The status of improvements qualifying under criterion 1.2 will be **EU Directive - discretionary**, assigned to the Non-Core Environmental Programme.

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TOPIC : River and Estuarine Quality Objectives

1. Qualifying discharges

Discharges will qualify under this driver only if:

- | | |
|---------------|--|
| QO(a) | The water is calculated to fail the planned Quality Objective if the discharge quality is the same as the present quality. And this risk is confirmed as a present failure by monitoring, and is also confirmed by monitoring as <i>statistically significant</i> ⁸ |
| QO(b) | As (a) but for the Consented Quality of the discharge. |
| QO (c) | As (a) but the failure is not confirmed by recent measurements of water quality as statistically significant. |
| QO(d) | As (b) but the failure is not confirmed by recent measurements of water quality as statistically significant. |
| QO(e) | As (a) but the failure is not confirmed by monitoring even at face-value. |
| QO(f) | As (b) but the failure is not confirmed by monitoring even at face-value. |
| QO(g) | The discharge has no Consent for Ammonia (or any other relevant determinand) and the water is <i>calculated</i> to fail the planned Quality Objective if the discharge quality gets worse than the present quality. |

2. Identification of improvements

Only the minimum improvements necessary for qualifying discharges to meet the failed Quality Objectives will be eligible for AMP3 funding under this driver.

3. Status

- 3.1** The status of all improvements will be UK Statutory - Environment Act Part 1 Chapter 1, Section 4, assigned to the Non-Core Environmental Programme.

⁸ Here and elsewhere statistically significant means at 95% confidence

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TOPIC : No Deterioration

1. Qualifying discharges

Discharges will qualify under this driver only if:

- DG(a) The river is calculated as worse than the 1990 Class if the discharge quality is the same as the present quality. This downgrade is confirmed by monitoring, and is also confirmed by monitoring as *statistically significant*⁹.
- DG(b) As (a) but for the Consented Quality.
- DG (c) As (a) but the downgrade is **not** confirmed by recent measurements of river quality as statistically significant.
- DG(d) As (b) but the downgrade is **not** confirmed by recent measurements of river quality as statistically significant.
- DG(e) As (a) but the downgrade is not confirmed by monitoring even at face-value.
- DG(f) As (b) but the downgrade is not confirmed by monitoring even at face-value.
- DG(g) The discharge has no Consent for Ammonia (or any other relevant determinand) and the river is *calculated* as worse than the 1990 RE Class if discharge quality gets worse than the present quality.

2. Identification of improvements

Only the minimum improvements necessary for qualifying discharges to meet the failed objectives will be eligible for AMP3 funding under this driver.

3. Status

- 3.1 The status of all improvements will be **UK Statutory - Environment Act Part 1 Chapter 1, Section 4**, assigned to the Non-Core Environmental Programme.

⁹ here and elsewhere statistically significant means at 95% confidence

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TOPIC : Local Priority Schemes

1. Qualifying discharges

Improvements to discharges that are not eligible for investment under any other driver may be sponsored by the region. These schemes must be backed by specific business cases describing fully the benefits of the required improvements and may be supported by LEAPS.

2. Status

Regional priority schemes assigned to the Non-Core Environmental Programme.

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TOPIC : Discharges Affecting Pilot SWQO Catchments

1. Qualifying Discharges

Any discharge which requires investment to support a proposed SWQO

2. Identification of Improvements

Only the minimum improvements necessary for qualifying discharges to meet failed objectives which are not addressed by other drivers will be eligible for AMP3 funding under this driver.

3. Status

The status of all improvements will be **UK Statutory - Water Resources Act subject to Designation, [Core*]**, assigned to the Non-Core Environmental Programme.

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TOPIC : Sites of Special Scientific Interest - SSSI's (Effluent Discharges)

1. Qualifying discharges

- 1.1 A discharge will only qualify for investment under this driver if it is on EN/CCW's (the conservation agencies) priority lists of STWs (and it is not already identified for improvements under the Habitats Directive), and the Agency agrees, after consulting with the conservation agencies, that there is sufficient evidence of impact or risk (based on monitoring data and/or an understanding of the relationship between water quality and conservation value).

2. Identification of improvements

- 2.1 The conservation agencies notify SSSI's to the Agency and Water Companies. The notification contains a citation of the plants, animals and other features of special interest. The conservation agencies have agreed to assist in the AMP3 process by identifying those features on each site which are sensitive to water pollution (including eutrophication). The conservation agencies may also have identified a link between the water quality on each site and the sensitive features. However, it is realised that the link between water quality and the sensitive features may not have been defined for all sites, either because the data does not currently exist to allow this, or there is difficulty in scientifically defining this link. Improvements will therefore be identified using the following criteria:
- i. Where it is clear that there are adverse water quality impacts on the plants, animals or other features of special interest, and these have been linked to the discharge in question, then improvements should be costed to enable the discharge to meet the standards identified by the conservation agencies as being required to protect the special interest of the SSSI. [*This would include, amongst others, cases where eutrophication is adversely affecting a sites's CO's*].
 - ii. Where a link has not been made between the impact of sewage effluent and the protection of the plants, animals and other features of special interest on a site, schemes should not be costed for AMP3. (By agreement with the conservation agencies, arrangements may be made for further research or investigation, which could result in a scheme being put forward at a later date, for future "logging up".)

3. Status

- 3.1 The status of improvements identified under 2.1 (i) will be **UK Statutory - Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981, [Core*]**, assigned to the Non-Core Environmental Programme.

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TOPIC : Sites of Special Scientific Interest (Abstractions)

1. Qualifying Abstractions

- 1.1 An abstraction will only qualify for investment under this driver if it is on the priority list of EN or CCW as being at risk from abstraction (and not already covered by a scheme for a SAC or SPA under the Habitats Directive). The abstraction should also have been assessed by the Agency to agree the degree of risk and the likely impact of individual licensed abstractions (or group of abstractions).

2. Identification of Improvements

- 2.1 The conservation agencies notify Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs) to the Agency and to water companies, both of whom have a duty to further their conservation. They are able to assist in the costing exercise by providing information on sensitive wildlife features and any assessments they have undertaken of the impacts of abstraction.
- 2.2 It may not be possible in each case to define the precise alterations required to abstractions in order to sustain or restore the special interest. Some of these may only require a percentage or seasonal reduction or provision of compensation water, others may require the abstraction to cease. However, it is important, where a wildlife site is at high risk and is drying out, that remedial action is not unduly delayed. For the majority of sites, the conservation agencies have prepared a proforma in consultation with the Agency, indicating the abstraction(s) concerned and the level of modification that may be desirable. Improvements will be identified using the following criteria:
- i) where a SSSI has evident problems from drying out or low freshwater flows and the role of water company abstractions has been clearly identified (by the Agency or the company itself), costings should be prepared according to a specification for a revised abstraction licence provided by the Agency, or to the levels indicated by the conservation agencies (eg, in the proforma);
 - ii) where a SSSI has obvious problems of drying out or low freshwater flows and the plants or animals are at high risk, but the precise relationship with an abstraction affecting the site has not yet been calculated, a scheme should be costed using the best estimate of the Agency's specification for a revised abstraction licence or the levels indicated by the conservation agencies (eg, in the proforma). Costs should include expenditure required to complete investigations;

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- iii) where there is concern about the impact of abstraction on a SSSI, but the plants or animals are not currently at high risk, further investigations may be carried out by agreement between the Agency and the relevant conservation agency. If these show a serious impact from a water company abstraction, a scheme may subsequently be prepared and costed for implementation in a future logging up process. At this stage, companies should only include the costs of any investigations required to determine the measures needed to protect the conservation interests of the site;
- iv) where an SSSI has been identified as drying out or having low freshwater flows (eg in a report prepared by a wildlife body) but it has been agreed between the Agency and the relevant conservation agency that this is not due to a water company abstraction (even though there may be one nearby), no scheme should be costed.

3. Status

- 3.1 The status of improvements identified under 2.2 (i) to (iii) will be **UK Statutory - Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981**, [Core *], assigned to the Non-Core Environmental Programme.

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TOPIC : Over-Abstractions (not exceeding licensed quantity)

1. Qualifying Abstractions

- 1.1 Over abstractions affecting sites identified under the Habitats Directive and the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 are dealt with separately and should not be included under this driver.
- 1.2 Abstractions qualify for investment under this driver if they are on the Agency's *Priority* list or *Problem* list of sites affected by abstraction - the distinction dictates the extent of the cost proposals which companies should make, as described below.
- 1.3 An abstraction will only qualify for investment under this driver if it is on the Agency's list of *Priority* sites affected by over abstraction. The Agency will provide a specification for a revised abstraction licence which will indicate acceptable rates of abstraction for the affected source of supply.
- 1.4 An abstraction will only qualify for investment if it is on the Agency's list of *Problem* sites affected by over abstraction where further investigations are required to determine acceptable rates of abstraction for the affected source of supply. At this stage, companies should only include the costs of investigation.

2. Status

The status of all improvements identified under 1.3 to 1.4 will be **Environment Act 1995** assigned to the Non-Core Environmental Programme.

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TOPIC: Flow Measurement and Recording

1 Qualifying Discharges

- 1.1 Continuous and Intermittent discharges will only qualify for investment under this driver if provision of flow measurement structures, or provision of flow measurement and recording facilities are required under the Agency's Flow Measurement Policy (Nov 97)¹⁰, and such structures or facilities are not currently installed.
- 1.2 Where the current consent for a discharge does not require flow measurement or recording but the discharge qualifies under the size categories of the policy it shall be included.

2 Identification of Improvements

- 2.1 Dischargers will be expected to assess their STW's and CSO's to determine whether they meet the Agency's requirements in respect of flow measurement and recording. Only those requirements additional to existing consent obligations should be costed.

3 Status

- 3.1 The status of all improvements will be UK Statutory - Water Resources Act 1991 assigned to the Non-Core Environmental Programme.

¹⁰ Discharge Consents Manual, chapter 7

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TOPIC : Dangerous Substances Directive

DETR are currently bringing forward new Regulations to establish Statutory Quality Objectives for 34 List II substances. However, the financial impact of the proposed new Regulations on the water industry is expected to be low. Were a WSC's discharges causes or contributes towards a failure of one of the proposed new SQOs, the WSC will be required to reduce the load of the substance in their discharge to an acceptable level. The load reduction will probably be achieved by trade effluent control, but in a limited number of cases, may involve additional treatment.

Until the revision to the dangerous substances consenting policy and the impact of the new SQOs becomes clear, it will not be possible, with any degree of certainty, to calculated the cost of any increased financial obligation on the WSCs.

The Agency's current policy for the control of dangerous substances is being revised with a view to adequately protecting the environment without imposing disproportionate costs on the discharger.

1. **Qualifying Discharges**
Not possible to identify discharges at this stage.

2. **Identification of Improvements**
Not possible to quantify at this stage.

3. **Status**

EU Directive - statutory subject to Regulations, [Core*], assigned to the Non-Core Environmental Programme.

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TOPIC : Emergency Provisions

Through breakdown or poor operation sewage works and pumping stations have caused serious pollution incidents in surface water. The breakdown of plant is inevitable -no plant is perfect. Breakdown can be due to poor operation, plant failure or unusual circumstances outside of the operators control (e.g. extreme weather or vandalism).

The specific risks to be removed by use of such equipment are deoxygenation or toxic effects on rivers leading to significant ecological harm and/or major fish kills.

To combat the effects of any pollution incident obviously caused by water utilities plant, water utilities should include Emergency Provisions equipment in the AMP 3 process.

1. Qualifying Sites

Only sites nominated by Agency for special risk status may be considered.

2. Identification of improvements

Emergency Provision Equipment (EPE) fulfills two roles a) to combat pollution in surface water -this could be in the form of oxygenation equipment or oil booms and b) plant which will supplement sewage works operations while part of the plant on the works is being repaired. EPE is required where there is a significant risk of pollution from water utilities plant but there is no provision to alleviate pollution effects during repair or resolution of any faults or difficulties.

3. Status

The status of all improvements will be **UK Statutory - Environment Act 1995 Ch 1 pt 1 Section 5** assigned to the Non-Core Environmental Programme.

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TOPIC : Misconnections

Discharges to controlled waters from public surface water sewers invested to the Statutory Sewerage Undertaker may be contaminated with pollution due to misconnections at various points throughout the system.

Remediation costs will necessarily include an investigative assessment to confirm source and responsibilities for problem prior to instigation of solution.

1. Qualifying Discharges

Discharges from surface water sewers may qualify for consideration within this driver if they have been previously identified by the Agency as causing a serious local problem manifested by presence of sillage or sewage debris with no clearly identifiable source of pollution.

Only sites nominated by the Agency will be considered.

2. Identification of Improvements

Improvements will include costs for an initial investigative assessment to confirm source of problem before defining minimum measures necessary to effect a solution.

3. Status

The status of all schemes will be UK Statutory - Environment Act 1995.

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TOPIC: Works Notices

Works Notices are a new power made available to the Agency by the Environment Act 1995, they can be used to prevent and remedy water pollution. They will be issued as part of a risk based approach to preventing pollution or can be used as a means of ensuring that appropriate clean up is initiated during an incident . They are **not** seen as a cost driver under the AMP3 programme.

1. Qualifying Discharges

None.

2. Identification of Improvements

None.

3. Status

UK Statutory - Environment Act 1995

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TOPIC : EC Nitrate Directive

1. Qualifying discharges

None. (The controls to be applied under this Directive relate to nitrates from agricultural sources, therefore the Directive will not drive AMP investment.)

2. Identification of Improvements

None.

The Nitrate Directive and the UWWT Directive are to some extent complementary in that inland drinking water sources affected by high nitrate concentrations and saline waters affected by eutrophication can be designated under both Directives.

There is linkage between the two Directives under the Government's methodology for designations, in that qualifying STWs (for UWWTD) within stretches of Polluted Waters (Nitrate) (under Nitrate Directive) are deemed to be contributing to pollution of a failing abstraction point, whereas STWs upstream of the Polluted Water are deemed not to contribute. This affects the requirements for the STWs but not for agriculture and is not therefore a material consideration under Nitrate Directive.

Sewage sludge disposal is subject to a Directive in its own right and is not addressed via the Nitrate Directive. The introduction of controls under Nitrate Directive may affect the use by farmers of sewage sludge, but this is not seen as directly material to the AMP process.

The controls under Nitrate Directive may eventually reduce AMP expenditure on the alleviation of nitrate compliance problems with respect to the Drinking Water Directive.

3. Status

EU Directive - statutory [no costs]

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TOPIC : Agency Strategy on Eutrophication

1. Qualifying Discharges

Not possible to identify discharges at this stage.

2. Identification of Improvements

Not possible to quantify at this stage.

The proposed strategy is currently a draft report. The Agency is currently in the early stages of consultation with DETR and other regulators, prior to a broader consultation exercise planned for autumn 1997. The strategy is unlikely to be finalised until the end of 1997 at the earliest. In addition, there is outstanding work to be done in producing the separate manual which will detail the procedures for developing Action Plans to control eutrophication. The manual will contain much of the detailed information on the tools available to those developing and implementing specific action plans. The two documents are intended to describe a means of addressing eutrophication problems where these are raised as high priority issues in LEAPs, through a scientifically-based and consistent approach, making appropriate use of statutory powers.

The outcome of the consultation with Government and other interested parties cannot be anticipated. However, if the broad thrust of the strategy is adopted in the medium term, its application is likely to require water industry investment, particularly with regard to nutrient removal at STWs. This may include works smaller than those addressed via UWWTD Sensitive Areas. It is anticipated that the controls on point source nutrient inputs, where action is required, would be achieved via WRA 1991 consents and in any given catchment, the driver may be statutory (eg UWWTD designation), non-statutory or a combination of the two. The scale of any investment will not become clear until impact assessment, prioritisation and consideration of management options at site level are carried out.

3. Status

UK Statutory - Environment Act 1995, Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 etc - subject to ratification

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TOPIC : Proposed Water Framework Directive

1. Qualifying Discharges

Not possible to identify discharges at this stage.

2. Identification of Improvements

Not possible to quantify at this stage.

The Framework Directive is currently only a proposal. It was published in the Official Journal of the European Communities on 17.6.97. It will now be subject to extensive debate and consideration within the Council, the European Parliament, Member States and other relevant fora. As a result, the final form of the Directive may change significantly from that published in the OJ. Furthermore, the timescale for final agreement and adoption is heavily dependent on the political and technical deliberations and cannot be predicted with any accuracy. Given this uncertainty, whilst the Directive if and when adopted may have significant implications for water quality control and investment, it cannot be applied as an AMP investment driver at present.

In the medium term if the current proposal is adopted as drafted, it will introduce a requirement on Member States to establish an objective of "good" status, both for surface and groundwaters, to be achieved by 2010. Whilst the basic measures to achieve that aim will be other Directives (particularly UWWTD, IPPC and Nitrate Directives), any regulatory shortfall will need to be addressed via "supplementary" measures. The requirements could drive significant water quality investment.

3. Status

EU Directive - *proposed*

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TOPIC : UK Biodiversity Action Plan.

1. Qualifying Discharges / Abstractions

It is not possible, at this stage, to identify all discharges or abstractions where the UK Biodiversity Action Plan is the sole driver.

2. Identification of Improvements

It is not possible to quantify improvements specific to this driver at this stage.

Ministers have identified, under Section 4 of their statutory guidance to the Agency, that a key component of its contribution to sustainable development is “....*the conservation and where practicable enhancement of biodiversity*”. A key means of achieving this aim is in the Agency’s contribution to the UK Biodiversity Action Plan. This plan, which stems from the Biodiversity Convention of the Rio Earth Summit in 1992, identifies a number of species and habitats, which require action to ensure that they are conserved and/or enhanced. The Agency is the responsible agency for a number of specific actions relating to these species and habitats.

Whilst it is not currently always possible (particularly for discharges) to identify specific improvements which relate solely to the maintenance and/or enhancement of biodiversity, improvements identified under several other drivers will simultaneously address biodiversity needs. Improvements identified under the Habitats Directive, River SSSI’s, Sensitive Areas, and River and Estuarine Quality Objective drivers, in particular, are likely to have concurrent biodiversity benefits.

In respect of abstractions, where a key Biodiversity Action Plan habitat or species is affected by a water company abstraction, but is not located in a Habitats Directive site or SSSI, it will qualify for inclusion under the Over Abstractions driver.

In addition to the concurrent biodiversity benefits accruing from improvements identified under various other drivers, contribution to biodiversity has been identified as a key factor to be used when assessing the benefits of a particular scheme. As a result suitable account of biodiversity is being built into the Agency’s benefit assessment tools.

3. Status

UK Statutory - Environment Act 1995 - statutory guidance to the Agency under Section 4 of the Act.

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TOPIC : Shellfish Hygiene Directive

1. Qualifying Discharges

None.

2. Identification of Improvements

None.

This Directive does not lay down targets to be achieved, simply specifications for the classification of shellfish harvesting areas. Therefore the Directive is not an AMP investment driver.

3. Status

EU Directive - statutory *[not an investment driver]*