

# Water Quality Planning - prioritising Drinking Water Protected Areas (DrWPAs)

Operational instruction

1164\_08

Issued 19/12/08

## What's this document about?

To provide advice and collect data for prioritising surface water Drinking Water Protected Areas (DrWPAs) for action.



Document details

## Who does this apply to?

It will be used by the WFD Article 7 lead staff and other staff in the regions and areas involved in Water Quality Planning.

## Contents

What's this document about?	<a href="#">1</a>
Who does this apply to	<a href="#">1</a>
Background	<a href="#">2</a>
What does the Environment Agency have to do?	<a href="#">2</a>
What do I need to do?	<a href="#">3</a>
Where can I find the information?	<a href="#">3</a>
Liaison with the Water Company	<a href="#">4</a>
When does this need to be done by?	<a href="#">4</a>
Related documents	<a href="#">5</a>



Related documents



Feedback

## Contact for queries

Richard  
Bourne

## Background

Article 7 of the Water Framework Directive (WFD) has replaced the Surface Water Abstraction Directive (SWAD).

WFD allows for the designation of Drinking Water Protected Areas (DrWPA). A DrWPA is a water body that has been designated as such due to it being located at the source of raw water for a drinking water abstraction.

WFD Article 7 requires member states to put such additional monitoring and measures in place to prevent the deterioration of raw water quality so that the need for treatment is reduced.

DrWPAs will be designated as safeguard zones that will have investigations and measures applied where there is either a) evidence of upward trend that will lead to failure of the Drinking Water Directive standard, or b) evidence of repeated failure of the standard in locations where companies plan to invest in additional treatment.

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## What does the Environment Agency have to do?

We must include investigations and measures for tackling failing DrWPAs in the River Basin Management Plans.

We must also put plans in place to meet our monitoring duties under WFD Art 7.

To make this happen all the necessary information must be collated nationally by February 2009.

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## What do I need to do?

The Excel spreadsheet **081113PH\_DrWPA prioritisation pro forma.xls** contains three worksheets, "Instructions", "Enter details here" and "Water co art 7 data".

Fill in the "Enter details here" worksheet for each of the water treatment works listed in column A for the water companies in your region.

Complete a separate line for each of the substances identified against a water treatment works on the worksheet "Water co art 7 data" For each substance identified at a works fill in columns A to L.

- If the answer to column L is "yes" then fill in columns M through to Z.
- If the answer to column L is "no" then fill in column M.
- If the answer to column M is "yes" then fill in column U.
- For the answer to be "yes" in column U the water treatment works must be included in the finalised NEP for PR09 or have future treatment improvements identified in other detailed plans for example the company business plan.
- If the answer to columns M and U is "yes" then fill in columns M through to Z.

If the answer to column M or U is "no" there is insufficient evidence to propose investigations or measures so go on to the next substance.

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**Where can I find the information?**

There are three sources of information supplied:

- the water companies' Article 7 submissions,
- *watercohighrisk*; failures of the Drinking Water Directive standard at treatment works in 2007, *allfailures2007*; and
- the Agency's analysis of WIMS data, *guidedown955050*.

All are supplied in GIS format for viewing the spatial data. The first two can be used to check whether there is any supporting data for confirming evidence of failure of the DWD standard. The third can be used to check whether there is any supporting evidence of predicted failure without intervention. Water companies may wish to supply additional data to support the risk of failure according to the compliance test described above.

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**Who else can help?**

The PR09 Coordinator for the region will have some of the information required and also the Catchment Sensitive Farming Officer (CSFO) or Farming SEO. Where these are the likely source of the missing data this is noted in the spreadsheet header information.

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**Liasing with water Companies**

Not all the information required to complete the spreadsheet is immediately available from Environment Agency records and liaison with the Water Companies will be needed to find data for some of the fields. Where this is the case these are usually identified in the spreadsheet header.

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**When does this need to be done by?**

The completed spreadsheet **081113PH\_DrWPA prioritisation pro forma.xls** should be returned by email to Sheila Sowerby and copied to Richard Bourne by Friday 30 January 2009.

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## Related documents

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**Links**

There are no related documents.

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