

## **Deadline 8 Written Submission – ISH 14 (Domestic and Non Domestic Potable Supply)**

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I listened with great interest to ISH14 Session 1 and the discussion regarding; Northumbrian Water Limited, potable water supply and the complexities of the Water Industry Act 1991. However, I was left concerned about a number of issues that still seemed unclear at the end of the session.

As a consequence I would ask the ExA to seek clarification on the following points, in the context of Section 218 of WIA 1991 which I understand is as follows:

### **218. Meaning of “domestic purposes” in relation to water supply.**

218.—(1) Subject to the following provisions of this section, in this Act references to domestic purposes, in relation to a supply of water to any premises or in relation to any cognate expression, are references to the drinking, washing, cooking, central heating and sanitary purposes for which water supplied to those premises may be used.

(2) Where the whole or any part of the premises are or are to be occupied as a house, those purposes shall be taken to include—

(a) the purposes of a profession carried on in that house or, where—

(i) that house and another part of the premises are occupied together; and

(ii) the house comprises the greater part of what is so occupied,

in that other part; and

(b) such purposes outside the house (including the washing of vehicles and the watering of gardens) as are connected with the occupation of the house and may be satisfied by a supply of water drawn from a tap inside the house and without the use of a hosepipe or similar apparatus.

(3) No such reference to domestic purposes shall be taken to include a reference—

(a) to the use of a bath having a capacity, measured to the centre line of overflow or in such other manner as may be prescribed, of more than two hundred and thirty litres;

(b) to the purposes of the business of a laundry; or

to any purpose of a business of preparing food or drink for consumption otherwise than on the premises.

**Q1** As referenced by Mr Keen QC there seems “...room for plenty of debate about whether or not aspects of this [“...very substantial requirement to house a large number of construction workers...”] are actually Domestic Supply within the provisions of the Act.”

On the face of it logic would seem to indicate that the type of supply to SZC (Campus and Camp Site) should be required to comply with other establishments such as; boarding houses, hotels, hostels and other similar flexible accommodation (in the case of the Campus) and commercial camp sites (in the case of the SZC Camp Site Provision).

This seems particularly appropriate as the accommodation seems likely to be operated by a third party, presumably for commercial gain.

**Q2** I have previous (utility sector) experience of planning dynamic supply management in the event of; Civil Emergency, localised supply issues, regional failures, etc. as well as the development and roll-out of appropriate 'service hierarchy tools' to meet prioritised needs. Can NWL confirm the 'hierarchy of priority' that they currently deploy in the event of localised potable water supply shortage?

If different, what hierarchical changes would apply in the event of; a widespread and/or acute shortage of potable water supply?

**Q3** On the assumption that NWL have a 'hierarchy of priority' (or similar planning tool); and that the Applicant secures an agreement and NWL completes the provision of an appropriate main and potable water supply for SZC (either during construction or operation of the station), can NWL confirm where the SZC sites would sit within their 'hierarchy of priority', during; construction, under operation, during outages and potentially decommissioning?

**Q4** Under construction, does NWL foresee the SZC position changing dependent on the construction stage (i.e. the major 'concrete pour' for the reactor bases)? If so what would the revised position be?

**Q5** Is it possible (irrespective of the scenario giving rise to it) a situation could occur during construction or operation of SZC, that NWL would continue to supply potable water to SZC whilst restrictions were placed on East Suffolk businesses and homes, including if necessary stand-pipes or bowsers?

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