

Your Ref: W051_21/JA/377

Date: 5 November 2009

Mrs J Aston
Director of Water Regulation
Northern Ireland Authority for Utility Regulation
Queens House
14 Queen Street
BELFAST
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Dear Jo

**DRINKING WATER INSPECTORATE'S (DWI) RESPONSE TO THE UTILITY
REGULATOR'S DRAFT DETERMINATION FOR WATER AND SEWERAGE PRICE
CONTROL 2010-2013**

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Draft Determination.

Through the partnership engagement that has been ongoing as this process has developed, there has been ongoing dialogue with DWI and that is to be welcomed, particularly as this is a new process being taken forwards for all the stakeholders involved.

The Inspectorate's response aims to make general observations rather than comment on specific matters of detail which will continue to be discussed with NIAUR/NI Water, as appropriate.

The Inspectorate recognizes that competing priorities exist and that it may be necessary for a time lag to exist in the delivery of certain work programmes but DWI's primary objectives for PC10 are to meet existing and future statutory obligations:

- to secure compliance with the standards set out in The Water Supply (Water Quality) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2007;
- to introduce the requirement for wider catchment risk assessments and bring in a drinking water safety plan approach to safeguarding the quality of drinking water supplies through compliance with the Water Supply (Water Quality) (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland 2009); and

