



Water Industry Act 1991

1991 CHAPTER 56

PART II

APPOINTMENT AND REGULATION OF UNDERTAKERS

[^{F1}CHAPTER 1A

[^{F1}WATER SUPPLY LICENCES AND SEWERAGE LICENCES]

Licence conditions

[^{F1}171] [^{F2}Modification of licences by agreement]

- (1) Subject to the following provisions of this section, the Authority may modify the [^{F3}conditions of—
 - (a) a particular water supply licence, or
 - (b) a particular sewerage licence.]
- (2) The Authority may not make any modifications under this section unless the licence holder has consented to the modifications and, in the case of standard conditions of the licence, the Authority is of the opinion that the modifications—
 - (a) are requisite to meet the circumstances of the particular case; and
 - (b) are such that—
 - (i) the licence holder would not be unduly disadvantaged in competing with other holders of water supply licences [^{F4}or, as the case may be, sewerage licences]; and
 - (ii) no other holder of a water supply licence [^{F5}or, as the case may be, a sewerage licence] would be unduly disadvantaged in competing with other holders of such licences (including the holder of the licence being modified).
- (3) Before making modifications under this section, the Authority shall give notice—

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- (a) stating that it proposes to make the modifications and setting out their effect;
 - (b) stating the reasons why it proposes to make the modifications; and
 - (c) specifying the period (not being less than twenty-eight days from the date of publication of the notice) within which representations or objections with respect to the proposed modifications may be made,
- and shall consider any representations or objections which are duly made and not withdrawn.
- (4) A notice under subsection (3) above shall be given—
- (a) by publishing the notice in such manner as the Authority considers appropriate for the purpose of bringing the notice to the attention of persons likely to be affected by the making of the modifications; and
 - (b) by serving a copy of the notice on—
 - (i) the licence holder;
 - (ii) the Council;
 - (iii) the Secretary of State;
 - (iv) [^{F6}if the notice relates to a water supply licence,] the Assembly; and
 - (v) the Chief Inspector of Drinking Water.
- (5) If, within the period specified in the notice under subsection (3) above, the Secretary of State ^{F7}... directs the Authority not to make any modification, the Authority shall comply with the direction.
- [The Secretary of State is to consult the Welsh Ministers before giving a direction under ^{F8}(5A) subsection (5) in relation to a water supply licence.]
- (6) The modification under this section of part of a standard condition of a licence shall not prevent any other part of the condition from continuing to be regarded as a standard condition for the purposes of this Chapter.]

Textual Amendments

- F1** Pt. 2 Ch. 1A inserted (1.4.2004 for specified provisions and purposes and 1.8.2005 for further specified provisions and purposes and 1.10.2005 for further specified provisions and 1.12.2005 otherwise) by [Water Act 2003 \(c. 37\)](#), ss. 56, 105(3), [Sch. 4 para. 2](#); S.I. 2004/641, [art. 3\(1\)](#), [Sch. 1](#) (with [art. 6](#), [Sch. 3](#)); S.I. 2005/968, [art. 3\(b\)](#) (with savings in [art. 4](#), [Sch. 1](#), 2); S.I. 2005/2714, [arts. 2\(h\)](#), [3\(a\)](#) (with [Sch. para. 5](#))
- F2** S. 171 title substituted (1.4.2016) by [Water Act 2014 \(c. 21\)](#), s. 94(3), [Sch. 7 para. 19\(2\)](#); S.I. 2016/465, [art. 2\(m\)](#), [Sch. 1 para. 1\(j\)](#) (with [Sch. 2](#)) (as amended (22.3.2017) by S.I. 2017/462, [art. 16](#))
- F3** Words in s. 171(1) substituted (1.4.2016) by [Water Act 2014 \(c. 21\)](#), s. 94(3), [Sch. 7 para. 19\(3\)](#); S.I. 2016/465, [art. 2\(m\)](#), [Sch. 1 para. 1\(j\)](#) (with [Sch. 2](#)) (as amended (22.3.2017) by S.I. 2017/462, [art. 16](#))
- F4** Words in s. 171(2)(b)(i) inserted (1.4.2016) by [Water Act 2014 \(c. 21\)](#), s. 94(3), [Sch. 7 para. 19\(4\)\(a\)](#); S.I. 2016/465, [art. 2\(m\)](#), [Sch. 1 para. 1\(j\)](#) (with [Sch. 2](#)) (as amended (22.3.2017) by S.I. 2017/462, [art. 16](#))
- F5** Words in s. 171(2)(b)(ii) inserted (1.4.2016) by [Water Act 2014 \(c. 21\)](#), s. 94(3), [Sch. 7 para. 19\(4\)\(b\)](#); S.I. 2016/465, [art. 2\(m\)](#), [Sch. 1 para. 1\(j\)](#) (with [Sch. 2](#)) (as amended (22.3.2017) by S.I. 2017/462, [art. 16](#))
- F6** Words in s. 171(4)(b)(iv) inserted (1.4.2016) by [Water Act 2014 \(c. 21\)](#), s. 94(3), [Sch. 7 para. 19\(5\)](#); S.I. 2016/465, [art. 2\(m\)](#), [Sch. 1 para. 1\(j\)](#) (with [Sch. 2](#)) (as amended (22.3.2017) by S.I. 2017/462, [art. 16](#))
- F7** Words in s. 171(5) repealed (1.4.2016) by [Water Act 2014 \(c. 21\)](#), s. 94(3), [Sch. 7 para. 19\(6\)](#); S.I. 2016/465, [art. 2\(m\)](#), [Sch. 1 para. 1\(j\)](#) (with [Sch. 2](#)) (as amended (22.3.2017) by S.I. 2017/462, [art. 16](#))

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- F8** S. 171(5A) inserted (1.4.2016) by Water Act 2014 (c. 21), s. 94(3), **Sch. 7 para. 19(7)**; S.I. 2016/465, art. 2(m), **Sch. 1 para. 1(j)** (with **Sch. 2**) (as amended (22.3.2017) by S.I. 2017/462, art. 16)

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

- C1** Pt. 2 Ch. 1A applied (with modifications) (28.6.2013) by The Water Industry (Specified Infrastructure Projects) (English Undertakers) Regulations 2013 (S.I. 2013/1582), reg. 1(1)(b), **Sch. 1 para. 3(1)** (with reg. 1(1)(c))
- C2** Pt. 2 Ch. 1A applied (with modifications) (28.6.2013) by The Water Industry (Specified Infrastructure Projects) (English Undertakers) Regulations 2013 (S.I. 2013/1582), reg. 1(1)(b), **Sch. 1 para. 5(1)** (with reg. 1(1)(c))
- C3** Pt. 2 Ch. 1A applied (with modifications) (28.6.2013) by The Water Industry (Specified Infrastructure Projects) (English Undertakers) Regulations 2013 (S.I. 2013/1582), reg. 1(1)(b), **Sch. 1 para. 4** (with reg. 1(1)(c))
- C4** Pt. 2 Ch. 1A modified (28.6.2013) by The Water Industry (Specified Infrastructure Projects) (English Undertakers) Regulations 2013 (S.I. 2013/1582), reg. 1(1)(b), **Sch. 1 para. 3(2)** (with reg. 1(1)(c))

Changes to legislation:

Water Industry Act 1991, Section 17I is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 05 May 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations.

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Changes and effects yet to be applied to :

- s. 17I(4)(b)(iv) words repealed by 2014 c. 21 Sch. 5 para. 17(a)
- s. 17I(5A) words repealed by 2014 c. 21 Sch. 5 para. 17(b)

Changes and effects yet to be applied to the whole Act associated Parts and Chapters:

Whole provisions yet to be inserted into this Act (including any effects on those provisions):

- Pt. 3 Ch. 2B inserted by 2014 c. 21 s. 12
- s. 17(2)(aa) inserted by S.I. 2019/93, Sch. 1 para. 4(4)(b) (as substituted) by S.I. 2019/1245 reg. 21 (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. The affecting statutory instrument has no legal effect. It was made under a procedure which meant that it ceased to have effect 28 days after signing unless it was debated and approved in Parliament within that time. It was not debated and approved within 28 days, so it has expired with no effect.)
- s. 17A(c) repealed by 2014 c. 21 Sch. 5 para. 4(2)(c)
- s. 17A(d) repealed by 2014 c. 21 Sch. 5 para. 4(2)(c)
- s. 17A(2)(ba) and word inserted by 2014 c. 21 Sch. 5 para. 4(2)(b)
- s. 17R(2)(aa) inserted by S.I. 2019/93, Sch. 1 para. 4(7)(b) (as substituted) by S.I. 2019/1245 reg. 21 (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. The affecting statutory instrument has no legal effect. It was made under a procedure which meant that it ceased to have effect 28 days after signing unless it was debated and approved in Parliament within that time. It was not debated and approved within 28 days, so it has expired with no effect.)
- s. 17AA(1)(ba)(bb) inserted by 2014 c. 21 Sch. 5 para. 5(2)
- s. 17BA(5A) inserted by 2014 c. 21 Sch. 5 para. 7(3)
- s. 17HA(9)(b)(ia) inserted by 2014 c. 21 Sch. 5 para. 16(2)
- s. 23(2AA) inserted by 2014 c. 21 Sch. 7 para. 35(4)
- s. 23(8)(9) inserted by 2014 c. 21 Sch. 7 para. 35(10)
- s. 39E-39H inserted by 2021 c. 30 s. 78(7)
- s. 87(7C)-(7F) inserted by 2012 c. 7 s. 35(6)
- s. 94A-94E inserted by 2021 c. 30 s. 79
- s. 95ZA(6) inserted by 2014 c. 21 Sch. 5 para. 39(4)
- s. 96ZA(2)-(5) substituted for s. 96ZA(2) by 2014 c. 21 Sch. 5 para. 40
- s. 106B(3A) inserted by 2014 c. 21 Sch. 7 para. 94
- s. 117G(2)(aa) inserted by 2014 c. 21 Sch. 5 para. 41(2)
- s. 117G(4)-(4D) substituted for s. 117(4) by 2014 c. 21 Sch. 5 para. 41(3)
- s. 117G(6)(aa) inserted by 2014 c. 21 Sch. 5 para. 41(4)
- s. 117K(2)(aa) inserted by 2014 c. 21 Sch. 5 para. 42(2)
- s. 117K(5)(5A) substituted for s. 117(5) by 2014 c. 21 Sch. 5 para. 42(3)
- s. 117L(9) inserted by 2014 c. 21 Sch. 5 para. 43(3)
- s. 117N(4)(aa) inserted by 2014 c. 21 Sch. 5 para. 45(2)
- s. 117N(8)(aa) inserted by 2014 c. 21 Sch. 5 para. 45(3)
- s. 117N(11)(aa) inserted by 2014 c. 21 Sch. 5 para. 45(4)
- s. 117O(4)(aa) inserted by 2014 c. 21 Sch. 5 para. 46(2)
- s. 117O(8)(aa) inserted by 2014 c. 21 Sch. 5 para. 46(3)
- s. 117S(7)-(9) inserted by 2014 c. 21 Sch. 5 para. 49
- s. 119(2)(ab) inserted by 2003 c. 37 s. 89(1)(a)
- s. 119(3) inserted by 2003 c. 37 s. 89(1)(b)
- s. 121(1)(ba) inserted by 2003 c. 37 s. 89(2)(a)

- s. 141DA inserted by 2021 c. 30 s. 81
- s. 141DC inserted by 2021 c. 30 s. 83
- s. 177K(7)(aa) inserted by 2014 c. 21 Sch. 5 para. 42(4)
- s. 207D and cross-heading inserted by 2014 c. 21 s. 39
- s. 207D(5) word repealed by 2014 c. 21 Sch. 5 para. 52(a)
- s. 207D(5) words inserted by 2014 c. 21 Sch. 5 para. 52(b)
- s. 213(1ZA) inserted by 2014 c. 21 Sch. 7 para. 119(3)
- s. 213(1ZA) repealed by 2014 c. 21 Sch. 5 para. 53