

*These notes refer to the Water Act 2003 (c.37) which  
received Royal Assent on 20th November 2003*

# **WATER ACT 2003**

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## **EXPLANATORY NOTES**

### **COMMENTARY ON SECTIONS**

#### **Part 3: Miscellaneous**

##### ***Sections 63 to 65 Drought*** 354.

##### **Section 65: Procedure at local inquiries.**

Where there has been an exceptional shortage of rain causing a serious deficiency in water supplies then, under present arrangements, any water company or the EA can apply to the Secretary of State for a drought order. The Secretary of State may direct that a public inquiry be held into such an application.

355. The Local Government Act 1972 sets certain rules about the attendance of witnesses and the awarding of costs for inquiries. This section applies those rules in respect of the conduct of inquiries into drought orders.