



# Is Your Abstraction Licence About To Expire?

## The Environment Agency is tightening up

Up until recently the Environment Agency has been fairly lenient in accepting applications to renew time-limited licences, right up until the point of expiry and in some cases even after the old licence has expired.

However, the Agency has informed us that this is set to change and that from now on they will enforce the legislation - so licence holders must get their renewal applications in to the Agency at least three months before the old licence expires in order for abstraction to be allowed to continue.



## Does this really matter?

In short, yes. If applications are not received in time they will be treated as new applications. This could mean, for example, that the details of the application will be advertised, not just resulting in additional costs for the applicant but also increased scrutiny. If the abstraction is in an 'over-abstracted' or 'over-licensed' catchment, it is possible that it would not be renewed under the same terms and conditions as the old licence and in some cases may even run the risk of not being renewed at all.

Currently out of approx 340 time limited licences up for renewal by March 2011, only 175 renewal applications have been received.

## Why Envireau Water?

We are the UK's leading independent, abstraction licensing specialists. Our experience comes from many years managing and negotiating abstraction licences for some of the UK's largest independent water users in the UK. Our clients include agricultural estates, food producers and processors, water bottlers, leisure companies, industrial processors and a whole host of other smaller types of private supplies.

We have unparalleled in-house experience of complex licensing scenarios and have secured abstraction licences for clients in some of the most environmentally sensitive catchments otherwise 'closed' to new abstractions. We specialise in technical negotiation with the Environment Agency, especially when only a short timescale is available.

## Which aspects of Licence Renewal can we help with?

Envireau Water provides a full abstraction licence renewal service and will act as the agent throughout the determination process. Alternatively, we can compile discrete aspects of the application pack to complement those already produced by the applicant. We have a detailed knowledge and understanding of catchment hydrology, hydrogeology, environmental impact assessment and most importantly, the Environment Agency's licensing procedure.

## We Can Help

It is now essential that abstraction licence renewal applications reach the Environment Agency at least 3 months before expiry to ensure the licence is renewed.

Contact us today to discuss your renewal application and how we can help you to get it done on time.

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