



guardians of drinking water quality

## DRINKING WATER INSPECTORATE

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30 May 2018

Mr Phil Newland  
Managing Director  
South Staffordshire Water  
Walsall  
West Midlands  
WS2 7PD

Dear Mr Newland

**PERIODIC REVIEW 2019: South Staffordshire Water  
DWI Scheme reference: SST04 – Seedy Mill WTW – additional filtration stage and  
refurbishment of the clarification process**

### FINAL DECISION LETTER

The Inspectorate has completed its detailed assessment of the scheme proposed by South Staffs Water to provide an additional filtration stage and refurbishment of the clarification process at the following treatment works: Seedy Mill WTW operated by South Staffordshire Water, to secure or facilitate compliance with the standard for disinfection by products (THM's) and customer acceptability in drinking water.

The detailed assessment also took in to consideration the outcome of the risk assessment report submitted to the Inspectorate as required by regulation 28(1) of the Water Supply (Water Quality) Regulations 2016 for Seedy Mill and the connected supply system.

A summary of the outcome of our assessment of this scheme is attached. Based on the information submitted by the Company, the Inspectorate supports the need for a scheme to reduce disinfection by products in treated water for water quality reasons, and the supported scheme shall be included by the Company in its Final Business Plan, subject to the caveats listed in the attachment.

In this instance the Inspectorate intends to issue a Notice under Regulation 28(4) of the Water Supply (Water Quality) Regulations 2016, which requires the Company to mitigate the risk of disinfection by products that has been identified as a potential danger to human health from the water supplied from Seedy Mill.

It is expected that the Company will continue to monitor treated water disinfection by products, and that it will take all reasonable steps to prevent contraventions of the disinfection by products standard.

I am copying this letter to:

- Jon Ashley and Kevin Ridout at Ofwat;
- Elinor Smith and John Collins at the Environment Agency;

- Bernard Crump (CCW Chair, Central and Eastern)
- Simon Sperryn (Chair of Independent Customer Panel)

Please contact Sue Pennison ([Sue.Pennison@defra.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:Sue.Pennison@defra.gsi.gov.uk)) with any queries relating to this letter.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Milo Purcell".

Milo Purcell  
Deputy Chief Inspector

PERIODIC REVIEW 2019

SUMMARY OF DWI ASSESSMENT – LETTER OF SUPPORT

<b>Comment</b>	
<b><u>Water company:</u></b>	South Staffordshire water
<b><u>DWI scheme reference(s):</u></b>	SST04
<b><u>Scheme name:</u></b>	Seedy Mill WTW – DBP / Consumer acceptability
<b><u>Proposal:</u></b>	Provision of an additional filtration stage and refurbishment of the clarification process to facilitate compliance with the standard for disinfection by products (THM's) and customer acceptability in drinking water
<b><u>Supporting evidence:</u></b>	Risk assessment report for Seedy Mill SST-Risk-TSMPN-01-18, dated 26 January 2018.  Letter reference Seedy Mill PR19 dated 31 January 2018.
<b><u>Conclusion:</u></b>	Subject to the caveats listed below, the Inspectorate supports the need for the following scheme:  To install and operate an additional filtration stage and refurbishment of the clarification process at Seedy Mill in order to reduce the risks of breaching the THM standard within the connected supply zones.
<b><u>Timescale:</u></b>	Completion date: not specified
<b><u>Estimated cost:</u></b>	Estimated capital costs: Additional treatment at Seedy Mill WTW - £31m capex Plus additional annual operational costs - Increase in opex of around £3m across both sites (Seedy Mill and Hampton Loade)
<b><u>Legal Instrument Required:</u></b>	Notice under Regulation 28 (4)
<b><u>Caveats:</u></b>	1. Subject to agreement to, and completion of, more intensive investigation to provide further information to confirm steps to be taken and project completion dates
<b><u>Comment:</u></b>	DWI has no role in determining proportional allocation of expenditure. Where DWI technical support is given, this should not be taken by the company to imply that the scheme will be partially or wholly funded as a Quality item.  Schemes that require a legal instrument are considered necessary to meet statutory drinking water quality requirements. These schemes will be transposed to formal programmes of work by DWI as soon as possible and their implementation and completion will be monitored, audited and closure confirmed by DWI.