



16<sup>th</sup> December 2022

Mr. William Watkins  
Radnor Hills Mineral Water Company Ltd  
Heartsease  
Knighton  
Powys  
LD7 1LU

### **Decision on your Transitional Licence applications**

**Licence numbers: WA/054/0009/0001 and WA/054/0009/00002**

**Application numbers: PAN-006557 and PAN-006555**

**Site name: Radnor Hills**

Dear Mr. Watkins,

We are pleased to tell you that your applications for two abstraction licences to authorise previously exempt abstractions have been successful.

Please read your licences carefully as they are legal documents. You will have to keep to the conditions shown on them.

#### **Time limit**

Your abstraction licences will remain in force until 31/03/2031, in line with our policy on setting time limits. As previously advised, the time limit of 2031 is shorter than the current common end date of 2037 for the Teme catchment. However it is within the normal 6-18 year licence duration period and is considered to be in line with the policy position as outlined in the 2017 Government response on licensing previously exempt abstractions.

The shorter time limit has been applied due to the dynamic nature of the catchment and concerns raised during the consultation process regarding the potential for increased or prolonged low flow / drying events, as well as the conservation status of certain designated features. It is also considered justified in light of the limited groundwater monitoring data provided to support the application, which covers a relatively short time period from 2017 – 2021.

#### **Monitoring**

The shorter time limit is subject to further monitoring or investigation work being carried out. From previous correspondence we understand you are committed to working with both NRW and the EA to agree a suitable monitoring plan to collect further hydrological observational data for surface and ground water going forward. In addition, we advise that you continue

the hydrological monitoring already being undertaken in and around the Heartsease factory site, including, but not limited to:

- Measuring groundwater levels in the network of installed piezometers;
- Measuring groundwater levels in the onsite abstraction boreholes and the Chicken Farm borehole (at Heartsease Farm), with reference to specific NGRs;
- Measuring abstraction volumes from all onsite abstraction boreholes (if this is not done via an electronic logger then we will need to agree frequency as this may be more frequent than the monthly licensing requirement);
- Collecting hydrogeological data from any groundwater pumping test undertaken from any onsite Radnor Hills Mineral Water abstraction borehole (this refers to any ad hoc pumping tests carried out by Radnor and any original pumping test analysis would also be useful if available);
- Measuring surface water levels/ flow;
- Measuring discharge consent volumes under existing permits;
- Measuring rainfall onsite (or providing data from local rainfall gauges).

Please note, any data collected will be required to support any applications to renew or vary the licences going forward. We do not guarantee that we will renew the licences. We will contact you before your licences end to tell you about the renewal process.

### **Annual Charges**

We make water charges based on the yearly authorised amount shown on your licences and not on what you actually abstract. The charges will become due from the date we issue the licences and on 1 April each year after that. We will send you an account for water charges shortly, unless the authorised abstraction period has now passed – in this case, we will not send you an account for water charges until 1 April.

To work out your charges, please refer to our Scheme of Abstraction Charges, which is available on our '[Water Abstraction Charges Scheme 2022 / 2023](#)' page of our website, or via the following pathway: [Home](#) > [About us](#) > [What we do](#) > [How we regulate](#) > [Water Abstraction Charges Scheme 2022 / 2023](#)

Based on the 2022/23 charging scheme, we have estimated your annual charges to be as follows:

PAN-006555: £1,226.07

PAN-006557: £1,082.25

**TOTAL: £2,308.32**

Please note that the charging scheme is reviewed on an annual basis and this may change the amount you need to pay each year.

### **Compliance**

We regularly make routine visits to make sure that the terms of licences are up to date and that any work to abstract or impound water keeps to the licence conditions. One of our representatives will contact you, before they visit, to discuss the terms of the licences. They may visit you again later without giving you notice. If you have any queries regarding the

future regulation of your licences then please contact the local Environment or Regulated Industry teams.

It is your responsibility to make sure that the water you abstract is suitable for the purpose it will be used for. You must continue to monitor the water to make sure you are using it efficiently. It is also your responsibility to make sure that you have any other permission (for example, planning permission) you need in connection with your proposed work.

If you wish to apply to increase your abstraction quantities you should do this through our normal application procedure, details of which are available on the following webpage: [Home](#) > [Permits and Permissions](#) > [Water abstraction and impoundment licences](#) > [Apply for a water abstraction or impoundment licence](#)

### **Biosecurity**

Any work undertaken should take account of biosecurity risks, and mitigation measures should be put in place. The most important measure is to ensure that all equipment (plant, tools, footwear etc) that come to site, arrive clean, and are cleaned again before leaving site. This applies to all sites, not just those where an invasive non-native species (INNS), pest or disease has been previously identified. Information on how to assess biosecurity risks; simple steps to reduce risks; and specific measures for higher risk activities can be found on the [GBNNSS website](#) for INNS, or for tree health on [our website](#). If you need any further help, please feel free to contact our [INNS and Biosecurity](#) team or our [Tree Health](#) team.

### **EU Exit**

Following the UK's departure from the EU on 31 January 2020 and the end of the transition period on 31 December 2020, the legal obligations relating to compliance with environmental permits and legislation will continue to apply. NRW will continue to issue and regulate all permits and licences in line with our current practice. If you have any questions about your permits or licences and/or site management, please contact our Customer Care Centre on 03000 653 000.

### **Right of Appeal**

If you are not satisfied with the conditions set on your licences, you can appeal to Planning and Environment Decisions Wales at the following address:

Planning and Environment Decisions Wales  
Crown Buildings  
Cathays Park  
Cardiff  
CF10 3NQ  
Telephone: 0300 0604400  
Email: [PEDW.Casework@gov.wales](mailto:PEDW.Casework@gov.wales)

You can get a standard notice of appeal from the address above. You must return the notice of appeal **within 28 days** of the date of this notice, and send a copy to us. The notice must give the reasons for the appeal and you must also send:

- the application it relates to,

- any information or reports you sent us with the application,
- this decision notice; and
- any other relevant correspondence.

You must send written notice of the appeal and the documents listed above to Planning and Environment Decisions Wales at the address above. At the same time you must send us a copy of the notice and documents to:

Permitting Service Manager  
Permitting Service  
Natural Resources Wales  
Tŷ Cambria  
29 Newport Road  
Cardiff CF24 0TP  
Phone: 0300 065 3000

You can withdraw an appeal at any time before a decision has been made. In exceptional circumstances, Planning and Environment Decisions Wales have the power to allow a longer period for serving a notice of appeal.

If you have any questions about your licence, please contact me on the details provided below.

Yours sincerely



Mary Beckett  
Senior Officer, Water Resources Permitting

Direct phone line: 03000 65 3016

Direct e-mail: [mary.beckett@cyfoethnaturiolcymru.gov.uk](mailto:mary.beckett@cyfoethnaturiolcymru.gov.uk)