



In 2007 the Environment Agency, with the support of Natural England, completed a Review of Consents exercise for the Solent European sites. This exercise investigated whether existing environmental permits would need to be modified or revoked to ensure compliance with the Habitats Directive.

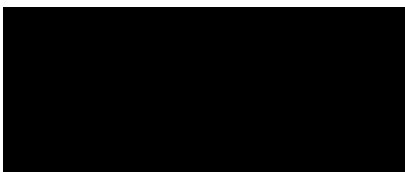
Natural England has recently shared new evidence with the Environment Agency for consideration, as there may be a need to review the permits of specific wastewater treatment works around the Solent. A summary of this additional evidence is enclosed.

Our two organisations will meet in January to agree how we can best work together going forward. This meeting will be an opportunity to consider this new evidence before a decision is made on whether a permit review would be appropriate. Any permit review would require a considerable investment of resources and we would work together to understand the likely timescales. We appreciate that finding an appropriate, suitable way forward is a shared task and we will continue to work closely with PfSH members during this process.

Whilst we recognise and understand the need to resolve the ongoing delays to development, we all share a collective responsibility to protect and enhance our local environment for the benefit of all. The constructive discussions that are happening across all sectors focus on how we can reduce the amount of nutrients entering the Solent, and also contribute to a much larger conversation around the value of the environment and how we can work together to address wider environmental pressures, such as the climate emergency, water usage and a rising population.

Our two organisations are committed to finding long term, sustainable outcomes and we will gladly provide you with further updates as this work progresses.

Yours Sincerely



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