



defra
Department for Environment
Food and Rural Affairs

Ergon House
Area 2C
Horseferry Road
London
SW1P 2AL

Telephone: 0207 238 6803
Web: www.defra.gov.uk

17 May 2012

Dear Consultee

Call for Evidence – Reform of the Water Special Merger Regime

I am writing to seek your views on the Government's proposals for reform of the Water Special Merger regime and in particular proposals to increase the threshold at which mergers are automatically referred by the Office of Fair Trading Commission to the Competition Commission from the current level of £10m.

The following documents relating to this Call for Evidence may be found on Defra's website at:

<http://www.defra.gov.uk/consult/open/>

- a copy of this letter
- the Call for Evidence document
- a list of those organisations/individuals invited to comment

We welcome your views and comments on the proposals. If you wish to obtain a copy of this consultation please contact:

Nick Jenkins
Water Regulation and Consumers
Defra
Area 2C, Ergon House
Horseferry Road
London
SW1P 2AL

Responses to this consultation should be sent by post to the above address or by e-mail to: nick.jenkins@defra.gsi.gov.uk by 28 June 2012.



This “Call for Evidence” is in line with the Code of practice on Consultations. This can be found at <http://www.bis.gov.uk/bre/>

When the consultation ends, we intend to put a copy of the responses in the Defra library at Ergon House. This is so that the public can see them. Also, members of the public may ask for a copy of a response under freedom of information legislation.

If you do not want your response – including your name, contact details and any other personal information – to be publicly available, please say so clearly in writing when you send your response to the consultation. Please note, if your computer automatically includes a confidentiality disclaimer, that won't count as a confidentiality request.

Please explain why you need to keep your details confidential. We will take your reasons into account if someone asks for this information under freedom of information legislation. But, because of the law, we cannot promise that we will always be able to keep those details confidential.

We will summarise all responses and place this summary on our website at <http://www.defra.gov.uk/consult/closed/>. This summary will include a list of names of organisations that responded but not people's personal names, addresses or other contact details.

To see consultation responses and summaries, please contact the library at:

Defra
Information Resource Centre
Lower Ground Floor
Nobel House
17 Smith Square
London
SW1P 3JR

Telephone: 0207 238 6575

Email: defralibrary@defra.gsi.gov.uk

Please give the library 24 hours notice. There is a charge for photocopying and postage.

If you have any comments or complaints about the consultation process, please address them to Consultation Co-ordinator, Area 7C Nobel House, 17 Smith Square, London, SW1P 3JR, or email consultation.coordinator@defra.gsi.gov.uk.

Thank you for your help in this matter. If you have any queries please contact us as above.

Yours faithfully

Nick Jenkins

Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs