

XML schema

Technical notes: Water Abstraction Schema

December 2009

1 Background

The Water Abstraction Returns XML Schema file describes the rules which govern the acceptable format of a file containing water abstraction returns to be supplied to the Environment Agency. It allows for the provision of multiple returns across multiple permits, with information on each held at the appropriate level. For example, against a permit you must specify the permit number and against a return you must specify a return requirement number and a period start and end date. It also allows for a return to be either a nil return with no lines or a full return with all lines completed.

2 Namespace Specifications

2.1 Govtalk Schema Standards

The Govtalk technical schema standards have been adopted and we are using the e-Government Metadata Standard (e-GMS) to annotate the Schema. For more information please visit the Govtalk website: (<http://www.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/govtalk/schemasstandards.aspx>);

From the GovTalk website; ‘These standards will allow information to flow seamlessly across the public sector and will provide citizens and business with better access to government services.’”

2.2 Environment Agency

The following convention will be followed for XML namespace specifications for XML water abstraction returns files;

<http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk/XMLSchemas/GOR/SAPMultiReturn/<version>>

where version is a two digit number which will be incremented with each successive issue, starting with 01.

3 Schema Body

The schema file contains annotations for each element where appropriate. A brief description of the key elements is outlined below;

Element Name	Notes
FileUpload	The root of the document. The document root must contain one or more Permit elements.
Permit	Represents a single water abstraction license with sub elements pertaining to that license. A permit element must contain one or more Return elements.
Return	Represents a single water abstraction return with sub elements pertaining to that return. It also contains a choice structure which allows for either a nil or full return.
GorPart	This element allows for the partitioning of returns data. Currently all returns have only one part.

NilReturnStructure	Represents a nil water abstraction return, with a supporting reason.
FullReturnStructure	Represents a full water abstraction return, containing the correct number of return lines depending on the totals type.
MeterUsageStructure	Represents a series of questions regarding meter usage. There is also a group of four meter readings that are optional depending on whether a meter was used or not.

4 Revisions

The current revision of this note is 0.6 and correlates to version 0.6 of the SAPMultiReturn schema

4.1 Changes made since the issue of the version 0.3 note

Structural changes

InputAbstractionAmountType changed to AbstractionVolumes to be consistent with the web form

New elements

None

This document is out of date and was withdrawn on 7/11/2018