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The Competition & Markets Authority  
by e-mail: [waterdetermination2020@cma.gov.uk](mailto:waterdetermination2020@cma.gov.uk)

Natural England  
Dragonfly House  
2 Gilders Way  
Norwich  
NR3 1UB

Dear Sir or Madam

### **Re Anglian Water Services (AWS) PR19 CMA determination**

We apologise for the timing of this response but hope you can take into consideration our views given below.

East Anglia is one of the driest parts of the country yet is home to a complex interdependent system of surface and groundwater dependent rivers, lakes, wetlands, fens, marshes and estuaries of national and global importance. This importance is highlighted in the number and size of Designated Sites dependent on this system.

Developing an environmentally sustainable, clean water supply is urgently needed for East Anglia to restore supplies to and provide resilience for these water dependent ecosystems. This urgency is increased with the dual pressures of climate change and regional growth. Ensuring this water supply to the environment is both a statutory requirement for the designated sites and key to meeting Government's 25 Year Environment Plan's objectives to leave the environment in a better state and for clean and plentiful water. Anglian Water is the largest user of water in the region, so their actions are crucial in achieving these objectives.

Given the importance of the environmental implications we would expect that the outcome of the CMA's determination still ensures the implementation of plans or projects within AWS's AMP7 program that deliver, or contribute to the delivery of, environmental protection and improvement will continue within the current timeframes. Particularly those measures that enable AWS to fully meet their environmental obligations for restoring a sustainable abstraction regime, efficiency measures and water quality improvements.

AMP7 measures are a step towards achieving these environmental needs and obligations, but further significant action that builds on AMP7 measures will be needed in AMP8. Water Resources East is already developing a collaborative whole system approach to develop these and to a large degree the success of this will be predicated on the successful implementation of these AMP7 measures.

We therefore also ask that the CMA to be mindful in its decision making of implications for the implementation of further vital environmental protection measures being developed for AMP8.

Yours sincerely,



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