

ENVIRONMENT AGENCY
WATER RESOURCES ACT 1991
NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR A DROUGHT ORDER

TAKE NOTICE that due to the threat of a serious deficiency of supply of water for compensation flow in Elslack Reservoir at Elslack, Skipton, North Yorkshire (National Grid Reference: SD 93671 48374) caused by an exceptional shortage of rain, the Environment Agency ("the Agency") is applying to the Secretary of State for the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs for a drought order under Section 73 of the Water Resources Act 1991.

The proposed drought order, which is intended to apply for up to 6 months, will allow the Agency to reduce the compensation flow required from Elslack Reservoir under the Barnoldswick Urban District Council Water Act 1915 subsequently amended by the Craven Water Board (Elslack Reservoir) Order 1966 in a staged manner from 0.382 megalitres per day (Ml/day) to 0.191 Ml/day during the period of operation of the order.

The order, if granted, would allow the Agency to continue to provide a compensation flow to meet the needs of the downstream environment whilst preserving stocks in the reservoir to support such environmental needs.

Anyone may inspect the proposals, which include a map of the area affected by the order, until 3rd July 2025. Inspection is free of charge and available during normal working hours at:-

- Skipton Library, High Street, Skipton, BD23 1JX. (Opening hours; Mon, Wed and Thu 09:30 – 19:00, Fri 09:30 – 17:00 and Sat 09:30 – 13:30. Closed Tue and Sun.)
- Earby Library, Earby Community Centre, New Road, Earby, Barnoldswick, BB18 6XA. (Opening hours; Tue 13:00 – 19:00, Thu and Sat 09:00 – 13:00 and Fri 13:00 – 17:00. Closed Mon, Wed and Sun.)
- Environment Agency, Lateral, 8 City Walk, Leeds, LS11 9AT. By appointment, telephone 0870 8506506.

Objections must be sent to water.resources@defra.gov.uk or:

Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, c/o Water Resources Policy, Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, Seacole Ground Floor, 2 Marsham Street, London, SW1P 4DF.

Objections should be made immediately and in any event no later than 5pm on 3rd July 2025. Objectors may send a copy of their objection to the undersigned.

Dated 26th June 2025

Mike Dugher, Deputy Director Yorkshire Area, Environment Agency, Lateral, 8 City Walk, Leeds, LS11 9AT.