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Lawrence Gosden
Southern Water Services Ltd
Southern House
Yeoman Road
Worthing
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Date: 09/07/2025

Dear Lawrence Gosden,

Thames to Southern Transfer Project – Request for a Direction under Section 35(1) of the Planning Act 2008.

Thank you for your email dated 19 June 2025 requesting the Secretary of State exercises the power under section 35 of the Planning Act 2008 ('the Planning Act') to direct that the Principal Development of the proposed Thames to Southern Transfer project ('the Project') be treated as development for which development consent is required under the Planning Act.

Following review and consideration of your case the Secretary of State is content to give a direction for the Principal Development to be treated as a development for which development consent is required. A signed Direction, including decision rationale, under section 35 of the Planning Act to that effect is attached.

This Direction is given without prejudice to the Secretary of State's consideration of any application for development consent which is made in relation to this proposed development.

The Direction, along with the cover letter, qualifying request and this decision letter will be published on GOV.UK.

We request the applicants engage with The Planning Inspectorate to provide the necessary details of the proposed scheme so that a project page can be set up on its National Infrastructure website and for the Direction notice to be subsequently published on that page.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M Woolhead', is displayed on a light blue rectangular background.

Martin Woolhead,
Deputy Director
Water Sector Delivery