

A CIWEM Conference

Improvement Programmes for Combined Sewer Overflows and other Intermittent Discharges

June 23, 2004

SOAS, London

Mark Cunningham, Defra

Catherine Wright, Environment Agency

Richard Long, Ewan Associates

Sponsors

Ewan Associates

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This event is accredited for Continuing Professional Development under the CIWEM CPD Scheme

Organised by **CMS - Coastal Management for Sustainability**

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Background

Intermittent discharges are probably the biggest single issue facing the Water Companies of England and Wales in the AMP4 period covering 2005-2010, and are of similar importance in Scotland and Northern Ireland. By summer 2004 the outline capital programme will be agreed between Government, EA and OFWAT, but there will be a number of major issues concerning its implementation.

The sewerage system in general and intermittent discharges in particular exist both to protect the environment and to prevent flooding. For many years compliance with UK legislation, the bathing water Directive, shellfish waters Directive and urban waste water treatment Directive (UWWTD) have been key drivers for upgrading intermittent discharges. Now that the 2005 UWWTD deadline is approaching, decisions must be taken on improvement programmes up to this date and beyond. Further into the future other imperatives will take over and it is vital that the solutions being designed now are adequate to enable compliance with newer legislation, particularly the water framework Directive, and with the likely content of proposals such as the revised bathing water Directive. Lessons must be learned from the experience of investment in the sewerage system of the past few years, both the successful and the not-so-successful.

In order to be sure that the investment achieves the planned results it is important that the requisite modelling of sewers and surface waters is carried out. At the same time the design of an effective capital programme will depend to a great extent on developing effective and appropriate engineering solutions. It is vital that policy-makers work closely with designers, engineers and manufacturers to ensure that the necessary structures, plant and equipment are ready in time.

A large number of issues must be addressed including:

- How many discharges are in fact unsatisfactory?
- Can legislation be interpreted in such a way as to ensure that the worst are dealt with first?
- What happens when further unconsented discharges are found?
- How does the 2005 UWWTD deadline affect the issue and what will happen after this date?
- Protection of bathing and shellfish waters - how much storage is really necessary?
- Might other solutions, such as on-line partial treatment, be helpful?
- What is the role and effectiveness of disinfection?
- What should be the balance between new-build and maintaining the existing network?
- How do the various solutions compare in terms of sustainability?

In 2001 CIWEM issued a Policy Position Statement on CSOs, which gave rise to a great deal of comment and constructive criticism. This has now been revised and the new Policy will be launched at the conference.

Aims and objectives of the conference

The conference aims to enable policy-makers and those responsible for their implementation to discuss the issues surrounding the development of an effective programme to deal with unsatisfactory intermittent discharges. Discussion will focus on areas of potential disagreement with a view to establishing means of deciding how these may be resolved.

The objectives of this conference are to:

- Clarify the aims and objectives of capital programmes for intermittent discharges, particularly AMP4
- Recognise the challenge posed by new and forthcoming legislation and consider how the foundations should be laid for future investment programmes
- Consider the successes of previous programmes and the lessons to be learned
- Highlight the importance of modelling both the sewerage system and the environment
- Consider alternative solutions including screening, storage and treatment
- Launch the 2003 CIWEM Policy Position Statement on CSOs.
- Indicate priorities for action by delegates and other stakeholders

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Programme

09.00 Registration and Coffee

09.45 **Chairman's welcome and introduction**

Session 1 The issues Chairman Geoff Bateman, President, CIWEM

9.50 **An overview of the issues relating to intermittent discharges**
Tim Evans CIWEM

10.10 **Intermittent discharges in England in the context of the urban waste water treatment Directive**
Mark Cunningham Defra

10.30 **Urban Drainage – PR04 and beyond**
Catherine Wright Environment Agency

10.50 **Delivering the AMP4 programme – challenges facing the utilities**
Ed Bramley Yorkshire Water

11.10 Discussion

11.30 -12.15 Buffet and refreshments

Session 2 12.15- 14.15 Some solutions Chairman: Richard Long, Ewan Associates

12.15 **Converting Strategies into Solutions**
Peter Myerscough WaPUG

12.35 **Sewerage and environmental modelling - can storage be reduced?**
Mike Jones AMEC

12.55 **Identification and assessment of unsatisfactory intermittent discharges**
George Smith Titan Environmental Surveys & Paul Henderson Welsh Water

13.15 **The Hope and Bradwell UPM study**
Helen Brookes Ewan Associates Ltd

13.35 **Sustainability and managing risk**
Jeremy Jones CIWEM

13.55 Discussion

14.15 – 15.00 Sweet course and refreshments

Session 3 15.00-16.15 Discussion leading to a way forward Chairman: Tim Evans, CIWEM

Introduced by 10-minute summary of issues raised

15.10 **Discussion producing solutions and priorities for action following the conference**

16.00 **Chairman's summary**

16.15 Close & Refreshments

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The Chartered Institution of Water and Environmental Management (CIWEM) is the leading professional and qualifying body for those who are responsible for the stewardship of environmental assets. The Institution provides independent comment, within a multidisciplinary framework, on the wide range of issues related to water and environmental management and sustainable development.

The Venue: The venue is the School of Oriental & African Studies (SOAS), Russell Square, London. This is a new, air conditioned lecture theatre, with all the modern AV aids and professional projectionists.

Accommodation: There is a wide range of accommodation available in the area and delegates will receive a hotel list when they book; this is also available on the CMS website www.coastms.co.uk

The Organisers: The conference is being organised by Norman Lowe and Bob Earll of Coastal Management for Sustainability (CMS) on behalf of CIWEM.

Conference fee:

CIWEM Members	Fee £ 135	VAT £23.62	£158.62
Non CIWEM Members	Fee £190	VAT £33.25	£223.25
NGO, Charity, Academic rate	Fee £ 95	VAT £16.62	£111.62
Student rate [See below]:	Fee £ 40	VAT £ 7.00	£ 47.00
Group rates: Contact CMS 01531 890415.			

- The fee includes food and refreshments and the conference papers and CD.
- Delegates with special needs should make this clear on booking
- All non-CIWEM-member conference delegates will receive CIWEM Environmental Partner grade membership to the end of December 2004. They will also receive free copies of our magazine and have the opportunity to be involved in local CIWEM events and activities. For more information, contact membership@ciwem.com, or see www.ciwem.com

Conditions:

- Cheques should be made payable to 'CMS'.
- **They should be sent to CMS, Candle Cottage, Kempley, Glos GL18 2BU.**
- Credit cards cannot be accepted.
- **Invoices can be provided** on request.
- Confirmation of registration and receipts will be forwarded on payment.
- Payment should be completed **BEFORE** the event; otherwise entry may be refused
- No refunds will be made for cancellation less than ten working days before the meeting.

Further details from Bob Earll: Phone / Fax 01531 890415 Joining details – maps, directions and hotels – programme are on the CMS website: www.coastms.co.uk or Email bob.earll@coastms.co.uk

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**CIWEM: Improvement Programmes for Combined Sewer Overflows June 23, 2004, London
Booking Form**

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