

Mr Philip Duffy  
Chief Executive Officer  
Environment Agency Head Office  
Horizon House  
Bristol.  
BS1 5AH

8<sup>th</sup> March 2024

Dear Mr. Duffy

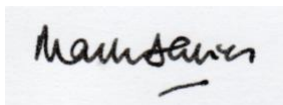
I am writing to you with regard to Thames Water's proposed Teddington Direct River Abstraction scheme which I understand requires both a new treated sewage facility and new abstraction facility on the Teddington/ Hampton stretch of the Thames.

Our local rowing clubs closest to the sites of these proposed facilities (on both the tidal and non-tidal sections of the Thames) have expressed considerable concern about what is being suggested. The potential impact is significant, both in terms of the social, recreational and environmental impacts, and bearing in mind the 3-year construction plan.

I understand that, as yet, there has been no formal environmental or social impact assessment for the scheme (despite these proposals being included in Thames Water's business plan), and neither has there been a wider public consultation. I will not rehearse all the arguments here, but I am aware of them from SOLAR's letter to you of 14<sup>th</sup> February which is published on their website. I fully endorse the case they are making.

I would therefore ask you to make clear to Thames Water that British Rowing will strongly support our clubs in their efforts to encourage a reconsideration of the current proposals. It seems clear that there are better alternatives to what is being proposed that have much less impact on the unique national asset that is the River Thames and its surrounding lands. Our members will be significantly impacted by what is being suggested, and I would encourage all efforts that look to unlock the better choices that exist.

Yours sincerely



Mark Davies  
Chair, British Rowing