

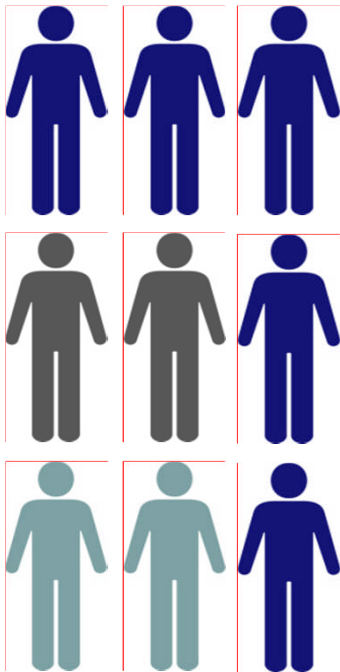


Hydropower flows consultation and the way forward

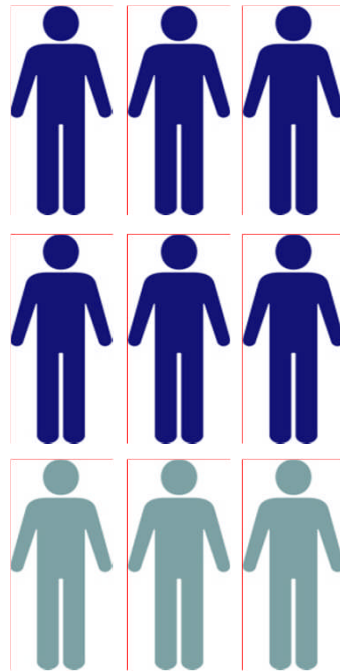
Mark Ellis-Jones
Environment Agency
25 June 2013

Two equal but opposing viewpoints

Option 1



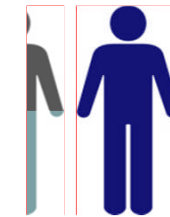
Option 3



Option 2 or
Option 4



Different
option



Every 20 respondents...

- England only
- Wales only
- England & Wales

Divergent views on key issues

Flows needed to protect the environment

Consumptive abstraction



Assessing sensitivity

Available evidence

Viable industry

Options appraisal & implications

Benefit
Water Framework Directive 'no deterioration'
Fisheries – maintain & improve
Maintain rate of scheme development
Reduce regulatory burden
Achieve stakeholder consensus
Reduce Environment Agency costs

We recommend modified option 3

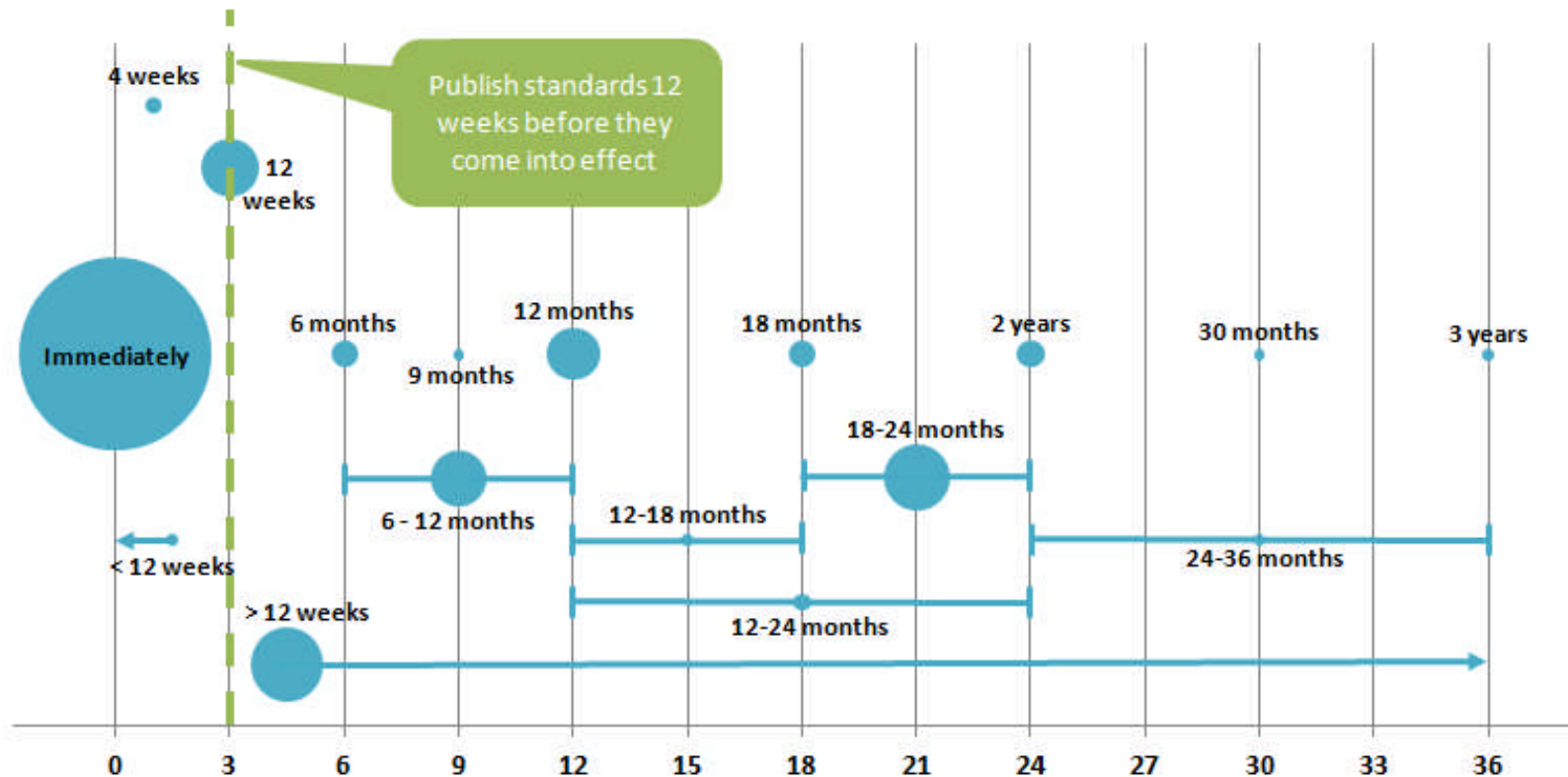
CAMS/EFI starting point – level playing field with other abstractions:

High head (headwaters of minor tributaries with low sensitivity)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Max abstraction 75% of available flow between HOF and 1.3 x Qmean• Broadly in line with SEPA guidance
On and around weir	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 100% abstraction above Hands Off Flow (HOF) up to 1.3 x Qmean• Derived from Options 1 & 3
Lowland with depleted reach	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• CAMS/EFI – treated as consumptive• Onus on applicant to provide evidence for higher abstraction

Appraisal of the modified option 3

Benefit	Overall Performance Including likelihood (Confidence in brackets)		
	High head	On or around weir	Lowland depleted reach
Water Framework Directive 'no deterioration'	Likely (Medium)	Highly Likely (High)	Highly Likely (High)
Fisheries – maintain & improve	Likely (High)	Highly Likely (Medium)	Likely (Medium)
Maintain rate of scheme development	Likely (Medium)	Highly Likely (High)	Very Unlikely (High)
Reduce regulatory burden	As likely as not (Medium)	As likely as not (Medium)	Unlikely (Medium)
Achieve stakeholder consensus	As likely as not (Medium)	Likely (Medium)	Very Unlikely (High)
Reduce Environment Agency costs	As likely as not (Medium)	As likely as not (Medium)	Unlikely (Medium)

Range of views on 12 weeks notice



Comments on how many months to allow from publishing the standards until they come into effect

● The size of the bubbles corresponds to the number of respondents. This size represents two respondents.

What makes a good application?

- ➔ Early engagement
- ➔ Use the pre-application advice when preparing your application
- ➔ We will consider departures from our guidance if you can demonstrate no environmental harm

Summary

- ➔ We have been out to consultation and considered your views and those of others
- ➔ We have appraised the options
- ➔ We have recommended a decision to our Board (11 July)
- ➔ We will publish the GPG in September
- ➔ We need you to make good applications



Questions