



# Water Act 1973

## 1973 CHAPTER 37

### PART IV

#### MISCELLANEOUS

#### **38 Interpretation**

(1) In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires, the following expressions have the following meanings respectively, that is to say—

" the appropriate Minister or Ministers " and " the Ministers " have the meanings assigned to them by section 1 above;

" the Council " means the National Water Council;

" county ", " district ", " county council ", and " district council ", mean respectively a county, district, county council and district council established by the 1972 Act;

" development corporation " means a development corporation established under the New Towns Act 1965 or any Act replaced by that Act;

" existing local authority " means a local authority within the meaning of the Local Government Act 1933;

" joint water board " and " joint water committee " mean respectively a joint board and a joint committee which has been constituted under section 9 of the Water Act 1945 and on which a statutory water company is represented;

" land drainage " includes defence against water (including sea water), irrigation other than spray irrigation, warping and the provision of flood warning systems, and "land drainage functions" shall be construed accordingly;

" local authority " means a county council, the Greater London Council, a district council, a London borough council or the Common Council of the City of London;

" local land drainage committee " and " regional land drainage committee " mean respectively the committees established by those names under Schedule 8 to this Act;

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*Status: This is the original version (as it was originally enacted).*

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" local land drainage district " means a local land drainage district established under that Schedule and any part of a water authority area which is to be treated as a local land drainage district for the purposes of Parts II and III of that Schedule;

" local statutory provision " means a provision of a local Act (including an Act confirming a provisional order) or a provision of a public general Act passed with respect to some area or a provision of an instrument made under any such local or public general Act or of an instrument in the nature of a local enactment made under any other Act;

" London excluded area " means so much of Greater London, and of any area adjoining Greater London, as—

- (a) in relation to a time before 1st April 1974, does not at that time lie within the Thames catchment area, the Lee catchment area or the area of any river authority;
- (b) in relation to a time after 31st March 1974, does not at that time lie, for the purpose of the exercise of land drainage functions, within the area of any water authority;

" the 1972 Act " means the Local Government Act 1972;

" public authority " includes a statutory water company;

" public sewer " has the same meaning as in the Public Health Act 1936 and "private sewer" shall be construed accordingly;

" regional water board " and " water development board " have the same meanings respectively as in the Water (Scotland) Act 1967;

" river authority " " underground strata ", " inland water ", " watercourse " and " water resources " have the same meanings respectively as in the Water Resources Act 1963;

" statutory water company " means a company authorised immediately before the passing of this Act by any local statutory provision to supply water or a company in whom the assets of any company so authorised have subsequently become vested;

" statutory water undertakers " has the meaning assigned to it by section 11(6) above ;

" supply of water in bulk " and " water fittings " have the same meanings as in the Water Act 1945;

- (2) Section 269 of the 1972 Act (which relates to the meaning of " England " and " Wales " in Acts passed after 1st April 1974) shall apply to this Act as if this Act had been passed after that date.
- (3) Except in so far as the context otherwise requires, any reference in this Act to an enactment shall be construed as a reference to that enactment as amended, applied or extended by or under any other enactment, including this Act.