SCHEDULE 4 Regulation 8

MONITORING ETC

PART 1

INTESTINAL ENTEROCOCCI AND ESCHERICHIA COLI

Location of monitoring point

1. The appropriate agency must—

(a) at every bathing water, locate the monitoring point where most bathers are expected; and

(b) subject to paragraph 7, where possible, take samples 30 centimetres below the water's surface and in water at least one metre deep.

Monitoring calendar

2.—(1) The appropriate agency must—

(a) establish a monitoring calendar for every bathing water before the start of every bathing season; and

(b) take samples at every bathing water no later than four days after the date specified in the monitoring calendar.

(2) In relation to any abnormal situation, the appropriate agency—

(a) may suspend the monitoring calendar for the duration of the situation; and

(b) as soon as possible after the end of the situation, must take sufficient additional samples to replace those missing due to the suspension and to ensure that it has the minimum number required for the bathing water for the bathing season.

Frequency of monitoring

3. The appropriate agency must—

(a) take and analyse the first sample for every bathing season shortly before the start of that season; and

(b) take and analyse samples at intervals not exceeding one month, from every bathing water throughout the bathing water season.

Sampling equipment

4.—(1) Subject to paragraph 7, the appropriate agency must only use sampling bottles which—

(a) have been—

(i) sterilised in an autoclave for at least 15 minutes at 121 degrees Celsius;

(ii) dry sterilised at no lower than 160 degrees Celsius and no higher than 170 degrees Celsius for at least one hour; or

(iii) irradiated by their manufacturer and not used previously;

(b) are of a size which allows sufficient water to be taken and analysed for the presence of intestinal enterococci and *Escherichia coli*; and

(c) are made of transparent and colourless material.

(2) The appropriate agency must—

(a) use aseptic techniques to maintain the sterility of the sample bottles; and

(b) clearly identify every sample taken by marking in indelible ink the sample bottle and associated paperwork.

Storage and transport of samples before analysis

5.—(1) Subject to paragraph 7, the appropriate agency must—

(a) at all times, protect every sample taken from exposure to light, and in particular, direct sunlight; and

(b) conserve every sample at a temperature of around 4 degrees Celsius between sampling and laboratory analysis.

(2) In relation to any sample, if the interval between sampling and laboratory analysis is likely to exceed four hours, the appropriate agency must conserve the sample in a refrigerator.

(3) The appropriate agency must ensure that the time between sampling and laboratory analysis does not exceed 24 hours and must use its best endeavours to keep this time as short as possible.

Reference methods of analysis

6.—(1) Subject to paragraph 7, the appropriate agency must use the following reference methods of analysis—

(a) for intestinal enterococci, one of the following standards of the International Organization for Standardization—

(i) ISO 7899-1:1998 (water quality, detection and enumeration of intestinal enterococci, Part 1, miniaturized method, most probable number, for surface and waste water) as amended by Cor 1:2000, or

(ii) ISO 7899-2:2000 (water quality, detection and enumeration of intestinal enterococci, Part 2, membrane filtration method); and

(b) for *Escherichia coli*, one of the following standards of the International Organization for Standardization—

(i) ISO 9308-1:2000 (water quality, detection and enumeration of Escherichia coli and coliform bacteria, Part 1, membrane filtration method) as amended by Cor 1:2007, or

(ii) ISO 9308-3:1998 (water quality, detection and enumeration of Escherichia coli and coliform bacteria, Part 3, miniaturized method, most probable number, for the detection and enumeration of E. coli in surface and waste water) as amended by Cor 1:2000.

General provisions in relation to rules or reference methods of analysis

7. The appropriate agency—

(a) must have regard to the guidelines on the handling of samples for microbiological analyses given in Annex V to the Bathing Water Directive; and

(b) may use such rules or reference methods of analysis as it considers are substantively equivalent to those specified in this Schedule, where the appropriate agency has notified the appropriate Minister giving details of such rules and methods and their equivalence.

PART 2

CYNOBACTERIA

8. Where any bathing water profile indicates a potential for cyanobacterial proliferation, the appropriate agency must undertake appropriate monitoring at the bathing water at the frequency necessary to allow adequate management measures to be put in place in accordance with regulation 12.

PART 3

MACRO-ALGAE AND MARINE PHYTOPLANKTON

9. Where any bathing water profile indicates a tendency for proliferation of macro-algae or marine phytoplankton, the appropriate agency must undertake investigations at the bathing water to allow adequate management measures to be put in place in accordance with regulation 12.

PART 4

WASTE

10. The appropriate agency must undertake visual inspections at every bathing water at the frequency necessary to allow adequate management measures to be put in place in accordance with regulation 12.

Changes to legislation:
There are currently no known outstanding effects for the The Bathing Water Regulations 2013, SCHEDULE 4.