

REFERENCE

2627152

RELEASE DATE

29 June 2026

SUBJECT

Requesting information linking water supply zones to water treatment works and raw water sources, together with water supply zone boundary shapefiles and historical data from 2009 to the present, if available.

RESPONSE

NI Water is providing the attached spreadsheet, NIW Raw Water Sources 2026, which provides information on water supply zones and associated raw water sources.

NI Water is withholding the information that would identify the specific relationship between potable water supply areas and water treatment works. NI Water is also withholding the water supply zone boundary shapefiles. This includes any historical versions of that withheld information from 2009 to the present, to the extent that such information is held by NI Water.

NI Water is relying on Regulation 12(5)(a) of the EIR. Regulation 12(5)(a) permits a public authority to refuse to disclose environmental information where disclosure would adversely affect national security or public safety.

NI Water considers that disclosure of the withheld information would adversely affect public safety. The withheld information would reveal detailed links between potable water supply areas, treatment infrastructure and geographic supply boundaries. In NI Water's view, that level of detail would materially assist a person seeking to identify, disrupt or target critical drinking water infrastructure. NI Water considers that the resulting adverse effect on the security and resilience of public water supplies is more probable than not.

NI Water has applied the public interest test and the presumption in favour of disclosure under the EIR. NI Water recognises the public interest in openness about water supply arrangements, water quality, environmental information and the

management of public water infrastructure. Disclosure can also support public understanding, research and accountability.

Against that, NI Water considers there is a stronger public interest in protecting the security and resilience of drinking water supplies and avoiding disclosure of detailed information that would materially assist the identification, mapping or targeting of critical water infrastructure. NI Water has concluded that, in all the circumstances, the public interest in maintaining the exception under Regulation 12(5)(a) outweighs the public interest in disclosure.

To assist you, NI Water's Water Quality Results webpage allows users to enter a postcode and identify the relevant water supply zone. This does not provide the withheld linkage information or boundary shapefiles referred to above, but it may assist with general water supply zone information.

<https://www.niwater.com/about-your-water/drinking-water/water-quality-results>