



To whom it may concern,

Water Supply (Water Fittings) Regulations 1999

**Work carried out on potable water systems within the
Shotton Mill (NAV) Boundary**

APPROVED CONTRACTOR (PLUMBER)

Albion Eco is the licensed Water Supplier to Shotton Mill and this site is connected directly to the public water supply without any intervening break tank.

The Water Supply (Water Fittings) Regulations 1999 are designed and enforced to protect the public water supply on both domestic and commercial plumbing installations from waste, misuse, undue consumption and contamination of water.

Under the legislation, owners and occupiers of premises with a public water supply connection and anyone who installs or alters such plumbing systems have a legal duty to comply with the Regulations and they can face prosecution for a criminal offence if they fail to do so.

Regulation 5 refers to notification of intended work and requires that anyone who proposes to install new water systems (or, in non-domestic premises, to alter or extend systems) in connection with any of the operations listed in the Regulations must give notice of the planned work to the Water Supplier, and shall not begin that work without the Water Supplier's consent, which shall not be withheld unreasonably. Contractors can be fined for failing to give notice and for starting work without consent.

The Government is campaigning against 'cowboy building' in a number of ways. One way is to include in the new Regulations some useful concessions for an **'Approved Contractor (Plumber)'**, who will be competent in complying with the Regulations.

An Approved Plumber has a useful concession in that, for certain minor works, they may start work without notification or prior consent, provided they issue Shotton Mill and Albion Eco with a Certificate of Completion that the work conforms to the Water Supply (Water Fittings) Regulations 1999. This can save up to ten days of waiting for the Water Supplier's consent and reduces the notification paperwork.

The **WaterSafe** scheme brings together the seven existing Approved Contractors' Schemes under one umbrella brand. WaterSafe recognises qualified professional plumbers who are employed by a business, which is a member of one or more of the Approved Contractors' Schemes. WIAPS (see overleaf) is one such scheme operating under WaterSafe. 'Approved Plumbers' can be authorized by either the local Water Supplier, the Water Industry Scheme (WIAPS) or by an organization recognized by the Government (IOP/APHC/SNIPEF).

The Water Industry Approved Plumber Scheme (WIAPS)

WIAPS is funded by most of the Water Suppliers to administer WaterSafe for them. In order to become a WIAPS member, a plumber has to evidence suitable training as a plumber, that he/she has adequate knowledge of the Regulations by passing an assessment and that he/she has sufficient public liability insurance cover.

There is no membership fee for a plumber who wants to join WIAPS but there is a charge for taking the assessment of regulations knowledge through WIAPS.

Further information on the scheme can be obtained from:

The Water Industry Approved Plumber Scheme
Unit 13 Willow Road
Pen y Fan Industrial Estate
Crumlin
Gwent, NP11 4EG
Email: wiaps@waterregsuk.co.uk

For further information from Albion Eco, please call: 01582 344374