



**HOUSE OF LORDS**  
European Union Committee

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6 September 2018

Dr Thérèse Coffey MP  
Parliamentary Under Secretary of State  
Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs  
Seacole Block, 2 Marsham Street  
London, SW1P 4DF

Dear Thérèse,

**EM 5846/18: Proposal for a DIRECTIVE OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL on the quality of water intended for human consumption (recast)**

Thank you for your letter on the above Proposal, dated 10 July, which was considered by our Energy and Environment Sub-Committee at its meeting on 5 September.

Thank you for providing an update on the negotiations, and on the UK Government's negotiating principles.

We note that you are still developing your outline impact assessment of the potential costs of the Proposal and look forward to receiving your summary once it has been completed.

We note discussions are ongoing as to the parameters that should be set by the Proposal. Please keep the Committee updated as these discussions progress.

We note that you continue to raise concerns about subsidiarity in relation to this Proposal and that the Presidency has proposed revised text in an attempt to address these concerns. What changes have been proposed and are you satisfied that these are adequate?

In our last letter, we asked to be updated once you had taken a view on two aspects of the Proposal: the requirement for additional risk assessments and the requirement to provide additional information to consumers and the public. Have you now formed a view on these aspects of the Proposal?

We have decided to retain the Proposal under scrutiny and look forward to a response within 10 working days.

I am copying this letter to Sir William Cash MP, the Chair of the European Scrutiny Committee, Philip Aylett, Clerk of the European Scrutiny Committee; Arnold Ridout, Legal Adviser to the European Scrutiny Committee; Les Saunders, DExEU, and John Leach and Craig White, Scrutiny Coordinators, DEFRA.

*Yours sincerely,*

*Tim Boswell*

Lord Boswell of Aynho  
Chairman of the European Union Committee