

# Abstraction Licence Secured for Irrigation

Our client required a licence to abstract water for the irrigation of their crops. In a catchment deemed 'stressed', and with the growing season fast approaching, they contacted Envireau Water for support.



## The Challenge

Our client, Lauren J Betts Ltd, are salad growers based in Kent. To provide water for their spray irrigation system, they had three boreholes installed on their farm. However, to access the water from these they needed to secure a new consumptive abstraction licence from the Environment Agency. To add to the challenge, the catchment for abstraction was deemed 'stressed' and also facing drought. The area had the Environment Agency's attention, but not for reasons we would want. Our team of water scientists and licensing specialists stepped in.



## The Envireau Way

Our team undertook a thorough review of the local hydrogeological, hydrological and environmental setting and put this in the context of local abstraction licensing policy. This was compared with the data that was available on the reaction of the boreholes to pumping. In close cooperation with the Environment Agency a "Pathway to Licensing" was developed which included both short duration, and long duration operational test pumping with associated environmental monitoring. Operational test pumping allowed impacts to be assessed under real abstraction stresses, and over a full summer period. It also provided a source of irrigation water. Our team provided ongoing communication between our client, landowners and the regulator to ensure a free flow of data and continuous interpretation.



## The Result

Our team successfully demonstrated to the Environment Agency that there was no negative environmental impact with abstractions taking place. A licence was granted for our client, meeting their needs and with conditions that were appropriate, and in time for the 2018 growing season. Collaborative working and negotiation with the Environment Agency led to the result we aimed for.

**"We knew that this abstraction licence would be a challenge, and we would not have got it without the help of Envireau Water."**

*Stephen Betts, MD of Laurence J Betts Ltd*

## Need our help?

Can we support you with a similar project? Envireau Water's point of difference is our approach to regulation, and we have a track record in successful applications. We recognise that every project is unique and have the flexibility to tailor our services to efficiently meet your specific project requirements. If you have a project that needs assistance, get in touch with us at [info@envireauwater.co.uk](mailto:info@envireauwater.co.uk) or give us a call on 10332 871 882.