

# **THAMES WATER EUROPEAN FORUM**

## **Employee Side Statement – 1 November 2005**

### **Press speculation – RWE to sell off Thames Water Division**

The Thames Water European Forum, covering Thames Water, Berlin Wasserbetriebe and Pridesa, met in London from 24 to 26 October 2005. During this time there were reports in both the Berlin and London press regarding the future ownership of the companies within RWE's Thames Water Division.

At the European Forum the Employee Side took the opportunity to raise with Werner Bottcher, Thames Water's Managing Director, the issues covered by the press reports. Werner Bottcher confirmed that he had no information other than that set out in the press, some of which appeared to be contradictory.

The Employee Side is concerned at the speculation regarding the future ownership of the business; however it has decided to seek clarification as to the validity of the press reports before publicly commenting upon them. At this point Thames Water's management has not been able to provide the Employee Side with the clarification it sought on this matter. This clarification will continue to be sought by the Employee Side.

The Management Side of the European Forum has agreed to keep the Employee Side fully apprised of any developments that may occur. Both sides have accepted that should the press reports turn out to have validity then there may be a need to hold a special meeting of the European Forum in order to discuss the implications for the future of the business and its employees.

The Employee Side has encouraged the Thames Water management to ensure that employees in each of the companies are kept updated on the issues regarding the future of the Thames Water Division.

John Loudoun (UNISON)  
Chair  
Employee Side

Mathias Ladslatter (Ver.di)  
Vice Chair  
Employee Side