

Inoperable reservoir valves - why wait for the inspection?

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SYNOPSIS. Until recently Undertakers have had limited options for dealing with these problematic valves and usually they would only 'appear on the radar' and therefore be identified as requiring remedial action during statutory visits by a Panel Engineer.

This is understandable and until recently was unavoidable as conventional solutions are costly and disruptive perhaps requiring the use of divers or the need for a complete reservoir drawdown. Environment Agency requirements mean that a considerable amount of time and expense is involved in planning such an exercise in order to facilitate for example, a reservoir drawdown in order to enable a valve exchange.

In this day and age where risk management and climate change forces people to consider the consequences of the 'unthinkable' then this approach demands reconsideration.