

# Havant Thicket Winter Storage Reservoir



## 2 - Need & Alternatives

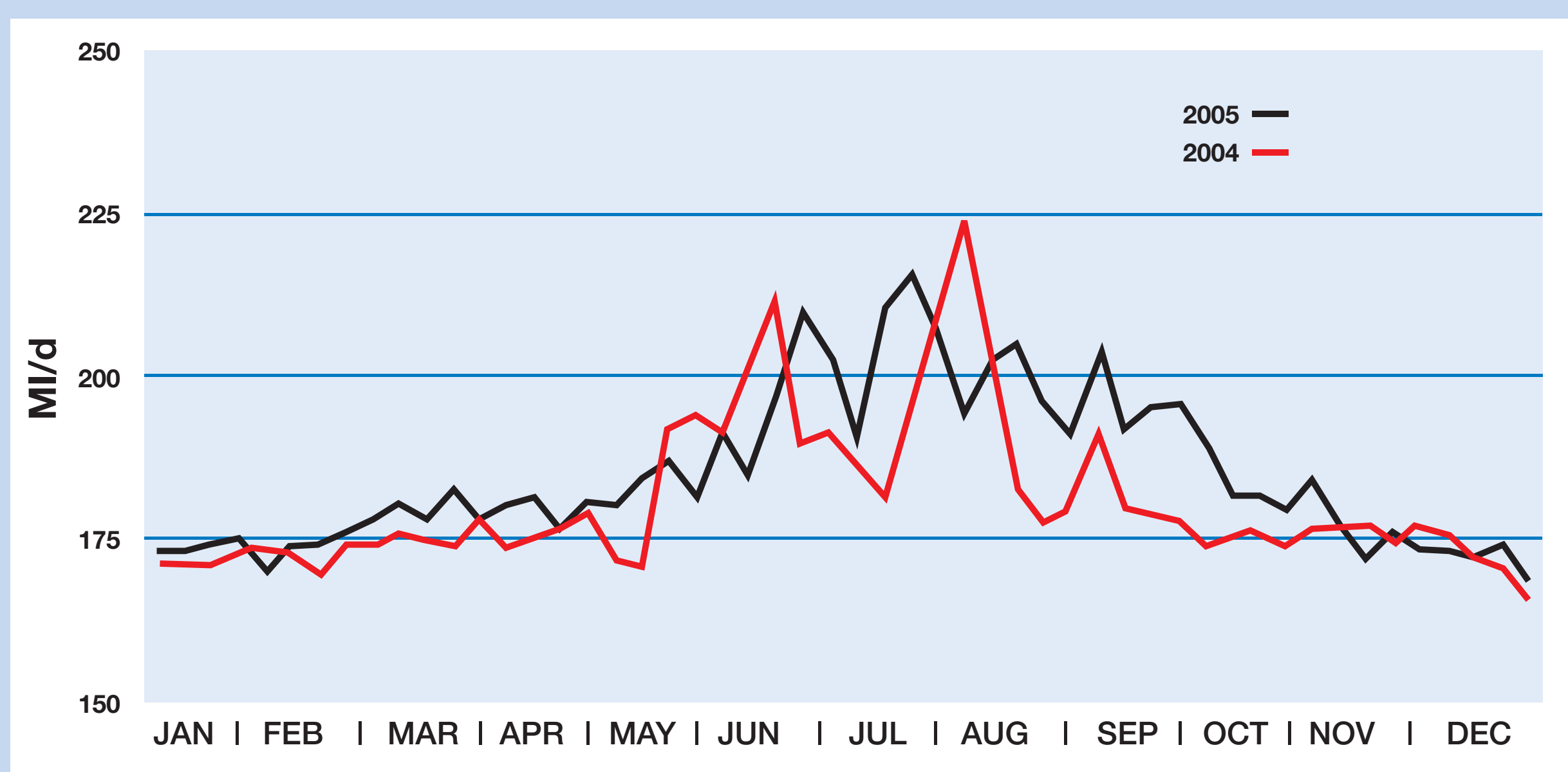
### Water Supply and Demand

#### Water Supply

Water for the Company is principally derived from groundwater of the South Downs chalk. Supplies are drawn from wells and boreholes throughout the Company's supply area, abstraction from the River Itchen and groundwater from a series of natural springs in Havant and Bedhampton.

#### Water Demand

The critical demand period for water is from the end of May to the end of July when additional demand results from garden watering, increased horticultural needs, increased personal washing and the influx of holiday visitors to the seaside resorts.



Portsmouth Water: Critical demand periods (weekly averages for 2004 and 2005 in mega-litres / day)

It is predicted that the demand for water will increase over the next 25 years and that there will be a water deficit by 2020/21 due to the following factors:

- **Lifestyle changes and lower occupancy households** - As a result of an increase in lower occupancy households (which have a greater water demand per individual), the per person consumption is expected to increase.
- **Climate change** - Predicted changes in the climate (such as hotter summers) will mean that people will increase their water consumption.
- **Environmental considerations** - The water environment provides many important habitats for wildlife, which need to be preserved. Limitations are placed on the abstraction from these sensitive sources by the Environment Agency through the powers they have from the European Habitats Directive.
- **Population increase** - It is predicted that the population of the Portsmouth Water supply area will increase by an additional 50,000 people by 2035.

