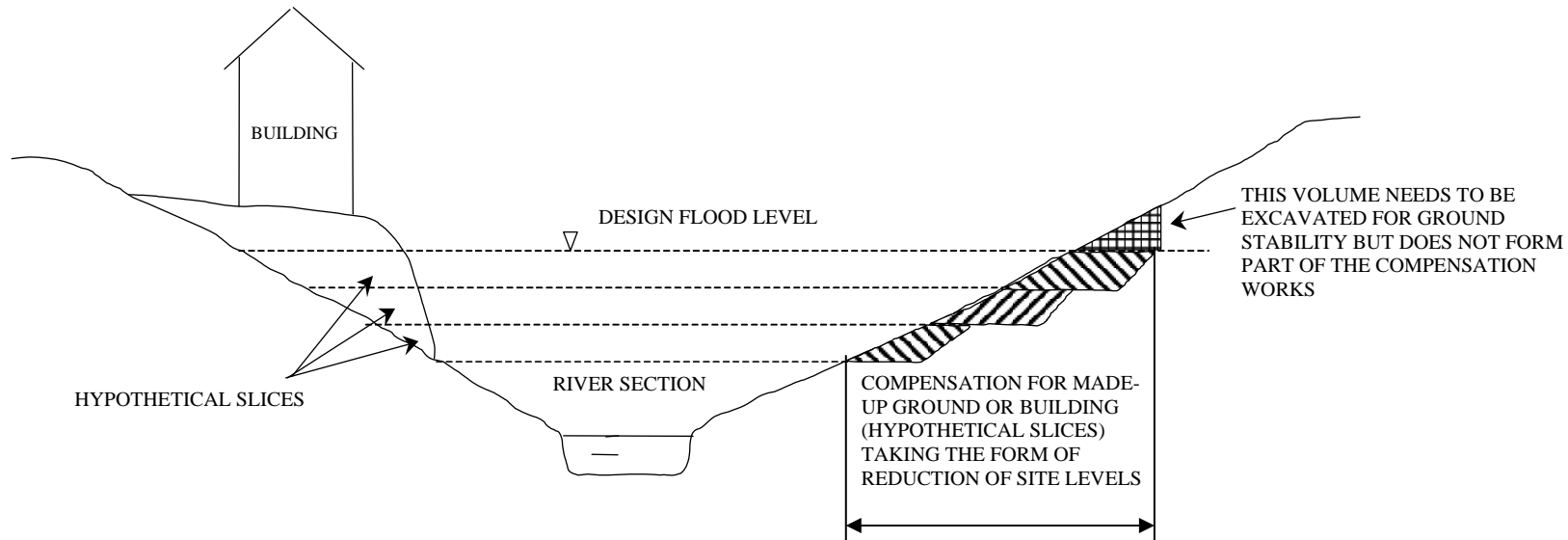


Level for Level Flood Plain Compensatory Storage.



Any loss of flood storage must be compensated for by the reduction in level of nearby ground, such that the same volume is available at every flood level before and after the works and it can freely fill and drain. In other words, in order to mirror the existing situation for a particular flood, each stage (or level) is provided with the same storage volume, cut and fill must equate on a level for level basis, i.e. at each level (say at 0.2 metre vertical intervals for example) the excavated and filled volumes are equal.

The timing at which the storage effect comes into operation is significant. If this volume is reduced for any stage of a flood then the lost storage results in flood waters being diverted elsewhere, leading to third party detriment. The detriment caused by a small encroachment may not be significant, or even measurable, when taken in isolation but the cumulative effect of many such encroachments will be significant.

It is not adequate compensation to:

- *excavate holes in the floodplain*
- *create landlocked areas of lower ground, even if connected to the main floodplain by channels or culverts*
- *provide low level volumes to replace high level floodplain and vice-versa*

The Environment Agency and its officers accept no liability whatsoever for any loss or damage arising from the interpretation or use of this information.