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CAR/L/1003062 - Chalmers Hope - Reg 14

CR CB Registry
To [Redacted]
Official\Official

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Thu 24/02/2022 10:54

Sent on behalf of [Redacted] Aquaculture Cell

Dear Sir/Madam

WATER ENVIRONMENT (CONTROLLED ACTIVITIES) (SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 2011 ("THE REGULATIONS")
REGULATION 14: REQUEST FOR FURTHER INFORMATION
APPLICATION REFERENCE NUMBER: CAR/L/1003062
SITE LOCATION: Chalmers Hope, Scapa Flow, Hoy

Thank you for sending us your application which we received on 28 January 2022.

The marine modelling report indicates there may be an area of seabed remote from the farm location where the rate of deposition of organic solids may exceed 250g/m². This rate of deposition of organic solids represents the threshold above which it is considered that significant adverse impacts on the water environment may occur. SEPA does not allow significant adverse impact on the water environment and according to regulation 15

- "(1) Before determining an application SEPA must –
(b) if the application is in respect of an activity that is considered to have or is likely to have a significant adverse impact on the water environment –
(i) assess the indirect effects of that impact on any other aspects of the environment likely to be significantly affected."

To enable us to proceed we require the following information:

- The collection and analyses of benthic biological samples with the results submitted to SEPA to show the presence or absence of any unacceptable impact. Details of required sampling and analysis techniques are available on the SEPA website further detail- can be provided on request.
- Unacceptable impact must be assessed by determining the Infaunal Quality Index of the benthos at the sampling locations. IQI values above the threshold of 0.64 IQI will be taken to be indicative of significant adverse impacts on the benthic communities in an area remote from the proposed site location.
- In this case, the remote location is that within the areas bounded by light blue contours in Figure 9 of the marine modelling report submitted in support of the above application.

Please send the requested information to our Registry Department at the email address below by **30 June 2022**

The Registry Department, Scottish Environment Protection Agency
Email: [Redacted]

The effect of this letter is to put SEPA's determination of your application on hold as detailed in regulation 17(2)(b). The determination time period will restart on 1 July 2022 or on the date of return of all of the requested information if sooner.

On receipt, the information will be placed on SEPA's public register. If you consider that any of the information supplied is commercially confidential, you may apply to have the information excluded from the register on those grounds. Any such claim must include representations indicating why you consider the information commercially confidential, together with such further information in support of the claim as you consider appropriate. SEPA will then have 28 days to notify you of its decision regarding your claim for commercial confidentiality.

If you have any questions regarding this letter please contact the Water Permitting Team at [Redacted] marked FAO: [Redacted]

Yours faithfully

[Redacted]
Specialist I Aquaculture