

21 December 2006

Dr Ian Selby
Operations & Resources Director
Hanson Aggregates Marine Ltd
Burnley Wharf
Marine Parade
Southampton SO14 5JF

Our Ref:
Your Ref:



FURTHER TEMPORARY GOVERNMENT VIEW EXTENSION ON LICENCE 401/2

I refer to my letter of 31 March 2006 notifying you of the then First Secretary of State's decision to grant a temporary Government View (GV) to Hanson Aggregates Marine Limited allowing the extraction of up to 1.5 million tonnes of marine sand and gravel from Area 401/2 in the period 1 April 2006 to 31 December 2006 as an interim measure pending the decision on your new application for a favourable GV to extract up to 2 million tonnes per annum from this Area up until the end of 2013.

The Secretary of State, unfortunately, is not yet able to issue her decision on your new application to continue dredging up to 2013 but intends to do so in the near future. Consequently, as a further interim measure the Secretary of State, following consultation with the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA), is prepared to grant another temporary GV allowing you to extract up to the end of June 2007, any residual tonnage remaining undredged from the 1.5mt which was the subject of the temporary favourable GV issued on 31 March 2006. Before deciding to issue this further favourable temporary GV, the Secretary of State 'screened' the continued dredging up to the end of June 2007 and concluded that it would not have a significant effect on the environment and does not, therefore, require an Environmental Impact Assessment.

This decision to grant a further time, but not tonnage, extension is made without prejudice to the determination of your new GV application for the same Area to continue dredging up to the end of 2013.

Copies of this letter have been sent to Gary James (DEFRA) and Jason Golder (Crown Estate) for information.

Yours sincerely


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