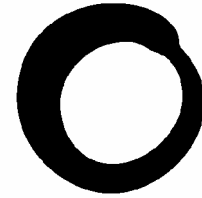




Marine Information Network
www.marinet.org.uk



**Friends of
the Earth**

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20th January 2007.

For the attention of: Anna Morton, Project Manager, Metoc plc,
Exchange House, Station Road, Liphook, Hampshire GU30 7DW.

Dear Miss Morton, Scoping Document : Area 430, East of Southwold.

Thank you for your letter dated 9th January 2007, ref. RJAN8, and for a copy of the Scoping report for the EIA for Area 430. You ask if we have any comments on the Scoping Report.

Firstly, may I advise you that that another MARINET member will be handling the detail of this EIA under the Government View procedure from the present onwards. I would therefore be grateful if you would send him a copy of your Scoping Report. This person is Mr. Patrick Gowen, 17 Heath Crescent, Norwich, Norfolk NR6 6XD. I would be grateful if you would confirm this action to me.

Regarding the adequacy of the Scoping Report with reference to our submission of 24th May 2006, I would offer the following comments in relation to Table 5.1, titled Potential Impacts and EIA Scope.

1. We have asked for a full bathymetric study of the near shore sandbanks (we believe that this should be for all sandbanks between the site and the coast, both to the west, north and south of Area 430) recording changes that have occurred since the original licence was granted. Could you please advise whether this is within the scope of the EIA.
2. We have asked to see a wave model, based on current bathymetric data and current meteorological data. Could you please advise whether this is within the scope of the EIA.
3. We have asked for a full record of changes to the profiles of the coastline since the original licence was granted, and that this record should contain a record of changes to beach profiles. Could you please advise whether this is within the scope of the EIA.
4. We have asked for a full statement of the physical resource available at Area 430, and the changes that have occurred to this resource since the original licence was granted. Could you please advise whether this is within the scope of the EIA.

5. We have asked for a full statement of the extent of benthic knowledge recorded at Area 430 and its surroundings at the time of the application of the original licence. Could you please advise whether this is within the scope of the EIA.
6. We have asked for the current sampling of the benthic community to be cross-referenced to the data at the time of the original application. Could you please advise whether this is within the scope of the EIA.
7. We have asked for a full and thorough examination of the ecological structure of the site, with analysis of whether the benthic order (hierarchy of species and food chain) has been in any way affected by dredging, and that this statement of ecological structure should reflect all species, from meio- and microfauna to marine mammals. Could you please advise whether this is within the scope of the EIA.
8. We have asked for a clear statement of the extent of knowledge of fish and shellfish recorded at Area 430 and its surroundings at the time of the original licence application. Could you please advise whether this is within the scope of the EIA.
9. We have asked for the current sampling of fish and shellfish living in Area 430 throughout the full yearly cycle to be cross referenced to the knowledge of fish and shellfish recorded at Area 430 and its surroundings at the time of the original licence application. Could you please advise whether this is within the scope of the EIA.
10. We have asked that the statement of ecological structure at Area 430 should assess whether fish and shellfish have been in any way affected by dredging in the area. Could you please advise whether this is within the scope of the EIA.
11. We have asked for a full historical record (extending from the time dredging first commenced in the Great Yarmouth area) of the use of the near and offshore sandbanks (we believe that this study should encompass all sandbanks between the site and the coast in all compass directions from Area 430) by birds and marine mammals both in the dredging area and its surroundings, and for a study of the changes that have occurred during this historical period up until the present time. We have asked for a similar study over the same historical period and using the same principles of study in respect of elasmobranches. Could you please advise whether this is within the scope of the EIA.

Our understanding of Table 5.1 is that a full bathymetric study of the dredged site recording changes that have occurred since the original licence was granted will be undertaken in the EIA, and that the EIA will make a full statement of the habitats and species relevant to the area which are afforded protection under UK, European and International law (accompanied by a record of those habitats and species occurring in Area 430 and its surroundings). Can you please confirm that this understanding is correct.

I would be grateful if you would make a copy of your reply available to both myself and Mr. Patrick Gowen.

Yours sincerely

S. D. Eades
On behalf of
MARINET.