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Mr S D Eades
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Your Ref:

Our Ref:

Date: 16 July 2007

Dear Mr Eades

**THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT AND NATURAL HABITATS
(EXTRACTION OF MINERALS BY MARINE DREDGING) (ENGLAND AND NORTHERN
IRELAND) REGULATIONS 2007 AND PROCEDURAL GUIDANCE**

Thank you for your letter of 8 July concerning these regulations and their procedural guidance.

As you are aware, these regulations and guidance were prepared by the Department of Communities and Local Government. It is not the practise of that Department to either reply to, or comment on, individual representations made to public consultation exercises - all representations are summarised in summary reports which are made available to the public. A summary report on the public consultation exercise into these regulations has been on the DCLG web-site since last November where it can also be downloaded. Visit: www.communities.gov.uk

The procedural guidance, Marine Minerals Guidance Note 2 (MMG2), is what it says it is, procedural guidance; it has no statutory status and there is no need or intention for such status as MMG2 provides only a guide to how the regulations will work in practice. A definitive statement of the statutory procedures can only be obtained from the regulations themselves.

Yours sincerely



D C Spooner

REGULATORY ADVISOR (Marine Minerals Team)