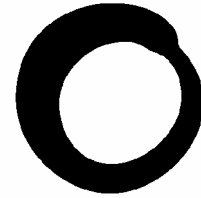




Marine Information Network
www.marinet.org.uk



**Friends of
the Earth**

Allington House
Allington
Chippenham
Wiltshire SN14 6LN
Tel. 01249 653972

8th July 2007.

For the attention of: Mr. Denis Spooner, Head of The Marine Team – Marine Minerals,
Marine and Fisheries Agency, 3-8 Whitehall Place, London SW1A 2HH.

Dear Mr. Spooner, Statutory Basis for Marine Minerals Guidance Note 2.

We responded to the government's consultation on the draft Environmental Impact Assessment and Natural Habitats (Extraction of Minerals by Marine Dredging) (England and Northern Ireland) Regulations 2006; and the draft guidance (Marine Minerals Guidance Note 2 : The Control of Marine Dredging from the English Seabed), and a copy of our response dated 30th July 2006 is enclosed.

The purpose of this consultation was to seek the public's views and comments prior to placing both the above matters on a statutory basis.

We have been advised by your department that the Environmental Impact Assessment and Natural Habitats (Extraction of Minerals by Marine Dredging) (England and Northern Ireland) Regulations are now on a statutory basis with effect from 1st May 2007.

However we have received no advice from your department concerning the statutory basis of the draft guidance (Marine Minerals Guidance Note 2 : The Control of Marine Dredging from the English Seabed). Accordingly, could you please advise us:

1. Your department's view of the comments we made on 30th July 2006 concerning this specific draft guidance.
2. Whether the government has placed this specific draft guidance - Marine Minerals Guidance Note 2 : The Control of Marine Dredging from the English Seabed – on a statutory basis; and, if not, when it intends to.

Yours sincerely

S. D. Eades
On behalf of
MARINET.