

Mr T A'Hearn
Chief Executive
SEPA
Strathallan House
Castle Business Park
STIRLING, FK9 4TZ



23 AUG 2016
SECRETARIAT

19 August 2016

Dear Mr A'Hearn,

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself to you and to begin an open and constructive dialogue with you and your SEPA colleagues.

I have recently taken up a position with Marine Harvest as their Head of Environment and Regulatory Affairs, based in their Fort William office. I have been given a fairly wide-ranging remit, covering a number of activities, some of which have potential negative impacts upon the environment. For example, one of the important work areas is the need for Marine Harvest to improve its ability to reduce the benthic impact below and around its marine sites and to better meet SEPA's environmental standards. As a company we are committed to reducing our environmental footprint and overall use of finite resources and are investing heavily in technology and systems to achieve this. Another of my more pressing tasks is to prepare the company for the forthcoming change to the way that SEPA operates its licensing regime for marine aquaculture, with the pending launch of the Deposition Zone Regulations (DZR). We are hopeful that this system may be of use to us but at this late point in the process we do not know the detail of how it will work and are having to make some fundamental assumptions in our preparations. We look forward to being able to take part in the formal consultations that will be forthcoming and hope that the final package will have benefits to us.

My own view on regulation is that both regulator and 'regulatee' must work in close co-operation with one another to achieve the aims of the prescribed legislative framework; there is not 'one side or another'. In order to do this we must be able to conduct open and, sometime, frank discussion with each other.

In summary, I look forward to my new role within Marine Harvest and to working constructively with you and your staff.

Yours sincerely

Ewan Gillespie
Head of Environment and Regulatory Affairs

Cc D.Sinclair - Orkney
A.Rosie - Dingwall

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