

From: SEPA [REDACTED]

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To: SEPA [REDACTED]

Cc: Various people in SEPA [REDACTED]

Subject: Official Business FW: Board question & related media response

Importance: Normal

Sensitivity: None

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Hi [REDACTED]

I followed up the question [REDACTED] asked at the Board on neonicotinoid use in aquaculture with [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] has confirmed that no neonicotinoids are currently licensed for use and we have no applications pending. Below are the lines we supplied to the recent media enquiry.

“As Scotland’s independent environmental regulator, SEPA’s Aquaculture Sector Plan outlines our vision for the sector. SEPA has had no pre-application discussions, nor received an application to discharge imidacloprid, either as part of a trial or otherwise, from Benchmark Holdings or any other company.

“Trials of any new medicine that would involve a discharge of residues into the environment would require authorisation, and discharges into the sea from land, fish pens or wellboats require a permit from SEPA.

Note

- SEPA’s role, as Scotland's independent environmental regulator, is to ensure that any proposed discharges to coastal waters of medicine residues will comply with environmental standards.
- The time we take to determine any application depends on the quality of the information supplied by the applicant and the time needed to properly take account of this information and the information provided in the consultation process.
- If an application is made to discharge a new medicine we require, among other things, the applicant to provide the scientific evidence necessary to identify the no effect concentration for that medicine in the environment, and information on how they will ensure that this concentration is met. The application will then be subject to public consultation prior to us determining whether to grant or refuse authorisation

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