

From: Finlay Bennet [Finlay.Bennet@snh.gov.uk]
Sent: 15 July 2008 16:35
To: a.hawkins@btconnect.com
Cc: David Bale; Erica Knott
Subject: Re: AWPR Appropriate Assessment
Attachments: Appropriate Assessment for AWPR (4.33 KB)

Tony,

Not quite sure what happened with my previous email replying to yours of the 23rd June. I sent a reply to you on the same day. Copy attached.

FoI request noted and we will need to get back to you once we've pulled together the correspondence.

SNH have still to provide comment on the Report to inform Appropriate Assessment. Once SNH have commented I anticipate that the report will be edited if necessary to reflect SNH's advice. I also anticipate that the report will inform the Minister's final decision regarding impacts on the integrity of the Dee SAC, as outlined in my previous email.

If you can let me know you've received this email I'd be grateful.

Kind regards

Finlay

>>> "Tony Hawkins" <a.hawkins@btconnect.com> 14/07/2008 22:34:18 >>>

On 23rd of June I emailed Finlay Bennet at SNH Aberdeen asking whether an appropriate assessment had been issued or agreed by SNH with respect to the crossing of the Dee SAC by the Aberdeen Western Peripheral Route.

As yet I have received no reply.

I have in my possession a copy of a document issued by Jacobs, the agents of Transport Scotland, entitled '**Report to Inform an Appropriate**

Assessment for the River Dee SAC'. Could you tell me whether this is the actual 'appropriate assessment' required under the Habitats and Species Directive? If not, is there another document approved by SNH or any other competent authority which constitutes the actual 'appropriate assessment' for the Dee crossing? If so, may I have a copy of that appropriate assessment?

Further to this enquiry I request under both the Freedom of Information Scotland Act and the Environmental Information (Scotland) Regulations copies of any documents, letters, emails, reports and minutes of meetings in relation to the crossing of the River Dee SAC by the AWPR exchanged between Jacobs, Transport Scotland, Scottish Ministers and Scottish Natural Heritage within the period from 1st July 2007 until the present day.

I appreciate that parts of the appropriate assessment may be confidential. As a former senior civil servant and a professional biologist I hereby undertake not to communicate any portions of the appropriate assessment labelled confidential to other parties except by agreement with SNH.

Tony Hawkins

Professor A D Hawkins BSc PhD FRSE CBE

Kincraig, Blairs

Aberdeen

AB12 5YT

Scotland

+44 (0) 1224 868984

a.hawkins@btconnect.com

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