

From: Finlay Bennet (Finlay.Bennet@snh.gov.uk)
To: Tony Hawkins (a.hawkins@btconnect.com);
CC:
Date: 23-06-2008 12:16:10
Subject: Re: Appropriate Assessment for AWPR
Message: Tony

You're understanding is essentially correct. An appropriate assessment is issued by the competent authority. The developer, or their environmental agents, can provide information that could inform the appropriate assessment, perhaps in its entirety. However the appropriate assessment would still need to be 'signed-off' by the competent authority to provide an audit trail that demonstrates they have fulfilled their statutory obligations under the Conservation Regs (1994).

In the case of the AWPR the developer is Transport Scotland in partnership with Aberdeenshire & Aberdeen City local authorities. The project is being implemented on behalf of the partners by the managing agents.

I would suggest the competent authority is the Scottish Minister who decides whether or not to approve the proposal. Jacobs have been contracted to produce a report to inform an Appropriate Assessment, which is what was sent to Henry.

SNH's role is as statutory advisors, we are not the competent authority. SNH must advise on the need for an appropriate assessment. Letter of 9 March 2007 advised that construction and operation of road had potential to cause significant and adverse impacts on the Dee SAC. We have also been asked to provide comments on the report prepared by Jacobs and we intend to provide these fairly soon.

Hope that helps

Finlay

>>> "Tony Hawkins" <a.hawkins@btconnect.com> 23/06/2008 11:46:15 >>>

Finlay You were kind enough to send to Henry Irvine Fortescue some papers from Jacobs which were in support of the appropriate assessment for the AWPR. It is my understanding that the full appropriate assessment is a document which has to be issued by the competent authority and not by the agents for the proposer of a particular plan or project. Has SNH issued a full appropriate assessment yet? If so, could you send it to me please?
Tony Dr A D Hawkins Loughine Ltd Kinraig, Blair Aberdeen AB12 5YT Scotland +44 (0) 1224 868984 a.hawkins@btconnect.com

Attachments: