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Environment Agency

	Our ref:	NA/2016/113403/04-L01
Marine Management Organisation	**Your ref:**	MLA/2015/00334
PO Box 1275		
Newcastle upon Tyne	**Date:**	13 December 2017
NE99 5BN		

Dear Sir/Madam

APPLICATION (DISPOSAL OF DREDGED MATERIAL, NAVIGATIONAL DREDGING (CAPITAL), NAVIGATIONAL DREDGING (MAINTENANCE)) (VARIATION TO EXTEND CURRENT DREDGING AREA AND REMOVE CONDITIONS) ABLE SEATON PORT BERTHS, HOLDING BASIN AND CHANNEL NZ 63443 32879 TEES BAY

Thank you for your letter in respect of the above proposal which we received on 23 November 2017. We have no objection to the application as submitted. However, we have the following comments to make.

Marine
We accept the proposed variation to increase the dredge depth from 6.5m to 8.5m, only within the wet dock adjacent to berths 8 and 9.

We consider that condition 5.2.3 can be exempt from the wet dock adjacent to berths 8 and 9 only. We wish to note that conditions will continue to remain in place for all of the remaining dredge areas covered by this licence.

Please note, any permanently wetted areas of dock have the potential to contain European Eel. These species are protected under the Eel (England and Wales) Regulations 2009, and any activities within a confined dock area, that may kill or damage eels must be avoided.

If you have any questions in respect of the above, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours faithfully

Louise Tait

ea/lh/e/std

Environment Agency

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