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Marine Management Organisation  
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NE99 5BN

**Our ref:** NA/2022/115868/01-L01  
**Your ref:** MLA/2020/00506/1  
**Date:** 20 July 2022

Dear Ashely

**REQUEST TO VARY A LICENCE (L/2021/00333/1). THE VARIATION REQUEST IS TO ADD CUTTER SUCTION DREDGER TO THE LIST OF METHODS, THE INCREASE DREDGE LEVEL TO 11.5M BCD FROM 11M BCD AND TO MODIFY THE COORDINATES OF THE DREDGE AREA. SOUTH BANK QUAY TEESWORKS**

Thank you for referring the above marine licence application which we received on 18 May 2022. Please accept our apologies for the delay in responding to the consultation.

**Environment Agency Position**

We have no objections to the proposed variation provided the following **CONDITION** is implemented on the grant of a marine licence.

**Condition**

Prior to the commencement of any remedial dredging, a scheme detailing the methodology for dredging shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the licensing authority. The scheme shall be carried out as approved and any subsequent variations shall be agreed in writing by the Marine Management Organisation. The remedial dredging scheme shall include, but not limited to, the following:

- The method and equipment for any remedial dredging needed to remove material tested as over Cefas Action Level 2. If no remedial dredging is identified through sediment sampling, then this will not be needed.

**Reasons**

To prevent detrimental impact on ecology and consequent deterioration of the Tees estuary waterbody and failure to achieve good ecological status or good ecological potential. Navigation dredging and disposal have the potential to affect

the water environment. Maintenance or capital dredging operation can have direct impacts on hydro-morphological characteristics and ecological status through removal of benthic habitats, altering flow regimes, smothering effects, release of contaminants bound up in sediments into the water column, impacts on migratory fish.

The Water Framework Directive (WFD) introduces new environmental requirements. New activities/marine licences need to comply with these WFD requirements. This includes the requirement of no deterioration of watercourses and to achieve good ecological status or good ecological potential. This includes deterioration of any of the individual quality elements contributing to the water body status.

Separate to the above condition, we also have the following advice to offer:

**Dredging - Advice for Applicant**

The proposed dredging activity will need to comply fully with 'Clearing the Waters' – A user guide for marine dredging activities and the WFD. Consideration should also be given to the beneficial reuse of dredged materials.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions regarding this letter.

Yours sincerely

**Lucy Mo**  
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