

Our Ref: PCS110380/er/SH
SG Ref: SEA00500

Simon Hindson
Planning and Development Services
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IV3 5NX

8th November 2010

By email: sea.gateway@scotland.gsi.gov.uk

Dear Mr Hindson

**Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005
Green Networks Supplementary Guidance – Environmental Report**

Thank you for your Environmental Report consultation submitted under the above Act in respect of the above Supplementary Guidance (SG). This was received by SEPA via the Scottish Government SEA Gateway on 8 October 2010.

We are generally satisfied with the assessment presented. We agree that the SG would have small positive effects on the water environment but consider that with slight modifications significant positive effects could be achieved. We make suggestions for these modifications in our response to the SG itself, which is provided separately.

As the SG is finalised, The Highland Council as Responsible Authority, will require to take account of the findings of the Environmental Report and of views expressed upon it during this consultation period. As soon as reasonably practical after the adoption of the plan, the Responsible Authority should publish a statement setting out how this has occurred. We normally expect this to be in the form of an "SEA Statement" similar to that advocated in the Scottish Government SEA templates and toolkit which is available at www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2006/09/13104943/13. A copy of the SEA statement should be sent to the Consultation Authorities via the Scottish Government SEA Gateway on publication.

Should you wish to discuss this consultation, please do not hesitate to contact me on 01349 860359 or via SEPA's SEA Gateway at sea.gateway@sepa.org.uk.

Yours sincerely,

Susan Haslam
Senior Planning Officer (SEA)
Planning Service