



MARINE AND COASTAL ACCESS ACT (2009). CONSULTATION BY TEESPORT TO REMOVE CONDITION 5.2.9 OF L/2015/00427 AT TEES AND HARTLEPOOL, TEESSIDE.

Reference Number: MLA/2015/00088/4

From: Cefas, Lowestoft Laboratory
Date: 14th November 2019
Tel: 01502 524564
E-mail:
regulatory_assessment@cefass.co.uk

To: Luella Williamson - MMO (by MCMS)

1. With reference to the above application and your request for comments, please find my advice below.

Description of the proposed works

2. This consultation pertains to the request by PD Teesport to discharge condition 5.2.9 of licence L/2015/00427/2 which stipulates that no material from the Billingham Reach licensed dredge area can be disposed at sea until investigative sediment analysis is presented to the MMO which shows that the material's chemical composition is at acceptable levels. This approach was stipulated by previous Cefas advice (Joe Perry, 14th August 2019) in response to the sample from Billingham Reach exceeding a Cefas Action Level 2 for polychlorinated biphenyls.
3. L/2015/00427/2 permits the licence holder to dispose of 243,842 wet tonnes (187,570 m³) of material from the Port of Tees, and 45,128 wet tonnes (34,740 m³) of material from the Port of Hartlepool at Tees Bay A (TY160) per annum. PD Teesport are licensed to use trailer suction hopper dredging (TSHD) for these works.

Sampling and dredged material quality

4. Four samples were collected and analysed for polychlorinated biphenyls only, as per sampling advice SAM/2019/00044, by SOCOTEC, an MMO validated laboratory for this analysis. I am satisfied that the coordinates provided are representative of Billingham Reach. Table 1 compares the initial sampling results (August) and the results currently presented for assessment (November).

Table 1. Table comparing PCB Results for Billingham Reach between August and November

	ICES 7 (ppm)	Total 25 (ppm)
August 2019	1.07436	1.91365
November 2019	0.00654 - 0.00944 (n = 4)	0.01503 – 0.02128 (n = 4)

5. The results give credence to the suggestion that the August 2019 results are not representative of Billingham Reach in general. These results alleviate major cause for

concern with regard to the disposal of material from Billingham Reach offshore. I thus find it acceptable to remove condition 5.2.9.

6. Whilst the material is now acceptable for disposal activities, it is my opinion that Billingham Reach should be tested for PCBs at the next mid-licence round of sampling, in order to ensure that levels of PCBs are either stable or decreasing. I do not deem it necessary to stipulate this as a condition.

Summary

7. The evidence provided shows that material from Billingham Reach is acceptable for disposal at sea, and thus supersedes the previous restriction due to the exceedance of AL2. Discharging condition 5.2.9 of L/2015/00427/2 is acceptable at this time.

Joe Perry

Advisor (Sustainable Marine Management)

<i>Quality Check</i>	<i>Date</i>
Jemma-Anne Lonsdale	14/11/2019