

I am writing to express serious concerns about the proposal to renew the dredging licence L/2015/00427/7.

I have noted for some years the unexplained deaths of crustaceans in the area that seems to be linked to dredging and dumping of potentially toxic sediments. The Tees is known to have toxic sediments and it's entirely possible if not probable that disturbing and dumping these layers is responsible for the mass deaths of crabs and lobsters. It is also likely that other sea life is being harmed. Our seas are already in a precarious state and should not be stressed further.

The precautionary principle should be applied and the license should not be renewed until a full and independent environmental impact assessment that demonstrates no risks has been completed.

The risks to sea life, the fishing industry and humans should not be underestimated.

[REDACTED]

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