

Area 1E, Nobel House  
17 Smith Square  
London SW1P 3JR

Tel: 03459 335577  
[helpline@defra.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:helpline@defra.gsi.gov.uk)  
[www.gov.uk/defra](http://www.gov.uk/defra)

14 December 2016

Dear Consultee

**ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT – JOINT TECHNICAL CONSULTATION  
(planning changes to regulations on Forestry, Agriculture, Water Resources, Land Drainage and Marine Works)**

1. I am writing to invite views on the [consultation](#) on the transposition of the changes made by EU Directive 2014/52/EU to the Environmental Impact Assessment Directive 2011/92/EU through national implementing regulations and other changes to some of these regulations.
2. This consultation relates to six regulations, as amended:
  - a) [The Environmental Impact Assessment \(Forestry\) \(England and Wales\) Regulations 1999, as amended](#), which apply in England and Wales;
  - b) [The Environmental Impact Assessment \(Agriculture\) \(England\) \(No.2\) Regulations 2006](#), which apply in England only;
  - c) [The Water Resources \(Environmental Impact Assessment\) \(England and Wales\) \(Amendment\) Regulations 2003, as amended](#), these apply in England and Wales;
  - d) [The Environmental Impact Assessment \(Land Drainage Improvement Works\) Regulations 1999, as amended in 2005 and in 2006](#), these apply in England and Wales;
  - e) [The Marine Works \(Environmental Impact Assessment\) Regulations 2007, as amended in 2009, 2011, and in 2015](#), these apply across the UK; and
  - f) [The Environmental Impact Assessment \(Fish Farming in Marine Waters\) Regulations 1999](#), these apply in England and Wales.
3. This is a joint consultation between Defra, the Welsh Government, the Scottish Government and the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs in Northern Ireland Department.
4. We propose to revoke the regulations covering fish farming in marine waters. The consultation explains that relevant provisions to cover any such development in future would be added to revised regulations on marine works. Separate legislation on Fish Farming in Marine Waters is being taken forward in Northern Ireland.

**Responses**

5. We welcome your views and comments on the proposals. To submit your response please complete the on-line consultation response questionnaire [here](#).
6. This consultation closes on 31 January 2017.

## Consultation Criteria

7. This consultation is in line with the [Government's Consultation Principles](#).

## Summary of responses and confidentiality

8. Any responses you send will be seen in full by staff dealing with the issues covered by this consultation in Defra, the Welsh Government, the Scottish Government and the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs in Northern Ireland. Responses may also be seen by staff across these administrations to help them plan future consultations.

9. When this consultation ends, we will summarise all responses and place this summary online on these websites: [Defra consultations](#) and [Wales consultations](#) and [Scotland consultations](#) and [DAERA Northern Ireland consultations](#). The summary will include a list of names of organisations that responded but not people's personal names, addresses or other contact details.

10. If you require a paper copy of the summary, or have any other enquiries, please contact us by email at: [EIA.consultation@defra.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:EIA.consultation@defra.gsi.gov.uk) or postal address: EIA consultation, Area 1E Nobel House, 17 Smith Square, London SW1P 3JR.

11. Defra will store a copy of the responses received for at least six months from the date the consultation summary response is published. This is so that the public can see them. Copies of responses will be made available to the public on request. This will also enable us to respond to freedom of information legislation requests.

12. If you do not want your response – including your name, contact details and any other personal information – to be made publicly available, please say so clearly when you send your response to the consultation. Please explain why you need to keep details confidential. We will take your reasons into account if someone asks for this information under freedom of information legislation. But, because of the law, we cannot promise that we will always be able to keep those details confidential. Please note, if your computer automatically includes a confidentiality disclaimer, this will not count as a confidentiality request.

13. Thank you in advance for taking the time to consider and respond to this consultation.

14. If you have any comments or complaints about the consultation process, please address them to:

Defra Consultation Co-ordinator, Room 629, 9 Millbank, c/o 17 Smith Square, London SW1P 3JR or email [consultation.coordinator@defra.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:consultation.coordinator@defra.gsi.gov.uk).

Yours faithfully

*Nina Hassall*

Nina Hassall

Housing and Planning Team  
Land Use Division  
Natural Environment Policy

[EIA.consultation@defra.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:EIA.consultation@defra.gsi.gov.uk)