

International Seabed Authority
14-20 Port Royal Street
Kingston
Jamaica
Newcastle upon Tyne
NE4 7YH

JNCC reference: 2553

Date 29th May 2015.

Dear Sainivalati S. Navoti,

Developing a Regulatory Framework for Mineral Exploitation in the Area. A discussion paper on the Development and Implementation of a Payment Mechanism in the Area for consideration by Members of the Authority and all stakeholders.

JNCC Response.

JNCC Functions:

The Joint Nature Conservation Committee (JNCC) is the statutory adviser to the UK Government and devolved administrations on UK and international nature conservation. Its work contributes to maintaining and enriching biological diversity, conserving geological features and sustaining natural systems.

JNCC delivers the UK and international responsibilities of the Council for Nature Conservation and the Countryside (CNCC), Natural Resources Wales, Natural England, and Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH). The functions that arise from these responsibilities are principally to:

- advise Government on the development and implementation of policies for, or affecting, nature conservation in the UK and internationally;
- provide advice and disseminate knowledge on nature conservation issues affecting the UK and internationally;
- establish common standards throughout the UK for nature conservation, including monitoring, research, and the analysis of results;
- commission or support research which it deems relevant to these functions.

The Committee comprises 14 members: a Chairman and five independent members appointed by the Secretary of State; the Chairman of CNCC; the Chairmen or deputy Chairmen of Natural Resources Wales, Natural England and SNH; and one other member from each of these bodies.

JNCC, originally established under the Environmental Protection Act 1990, was reconstituted by the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006. Support is provided to the JNCC by a company limited by guarantee (JNCC Support Co) that the Committee established in 2005.

JNCC's response to this consultation is provided in our capacity as adviser to the UK government and devolved administrations on nature conservation issues associated with offshore industry. Our response is based primarily on our experience working within the regulatory processes for the UK offshore oil and gas industry, UK renewables industry and UK marine aggregate industry and monitoring expertise. We have only provided comments on areas which fall within our remit.

1. Comments:

The contents of this consultation falls outside the JNCC remit and therefore JNCC has declined to comment further.

2. Publication and confidentiality:

JNCC are content for this submission to be made publically available, and for the JNCC name to be presented, however none of my personal contact details are to be disclosed. Future consultations should be sent to: JNCCAdvicetoDTI@jncc.gov.uk.

Kind Regards,

Louise Pell-Walpole

Offshore Industries Advisor

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