



Intervention #5 - DR 46[bis] - Environmental monitoring- Delivered on 12/07/2023 by Patricia Esquete

Thank you Madam Facilitator,

With regard to paragraph 2 and 2 alt., DOSI favours paragraph 2 as it explicitly states that the release of the findings and results are shared for wider dissemination, which is important for transparency and provides an opportunity to fill in knowledge gaps.

In addition, referring to paragraph 3, DOSI wishes to clarify that the monitoring plan is created for the whole mining life cycle, with potentially an extra detailed plan or additional independent verification for the first 7 years. In addition, this monitoring plan should be reviewed every five years to adapt to the new information that is gathered, and to provide an opportunity to submit new detailed plans for the following 5 years.

Last, DOSI emphasizes the need to start monitoring from the commencement of mining. This is to respond to the text-box comment, for discussion on the submission that monitoring would not be necessary for the first five or seven years. Effects of mining on biological communities need to be evaluated for the first time within a year of the commencement of the operation. Starting monitoring later can mean that estimates of resilience and recovery are less accurate, and provide a missed opportunity for scientific evaluation to reduce uncertainty in our understanding of mining impacts on the marine environment in a timely fashion.

Thank you, Madam Facilitator