All enquiries should be directed to:

David McCandless BSc. MSc.
Chief Fishery Officer
Tel: 01482 393690
Fax: 01482 393699
E.Mail: david.mccandless@eastriding.gov.uk
Web Site www.neseafish.gov.uk
Your ref:

Our ref: nesfc/
10/09/04

Mr Mike Smith
DEFRA
Marine Environment Branch 2
Room 303
Eastbury House
30-34
Albert Embankment
London
SW1P 2AL

Dear Mr Smith,

RE: FEPA Act 1985 – Decision to issue a FEPA (pt 2) licence for the capping trial

Thank you for your letter dated 20th of August 2004. As I mentioned in previous email correspondence, the Port of Tyne Authority were facilitated the opportunity to address my Committee at a meeting held on the 27th of July 2004 in York. Committee Members moved to refer the matter to a meeting of the Executive Committee held on the 8th September 2004. The Executive Committee specifically considered, in light of the information provided by the Port of Tyne Authority, the Committee's current opposition to the project.

At the Executive meeting held on the 8th September Members agreed that the Committee's opposition to the trial should remain on record and that their disappointment at the decision to issue the FEPA licence be conveyed to DEFRA.

Given that consent has now been given for the trial, the Committee feels it is important that it continues to have full involvement in both pre and post operational phases particularly during the review of any monitoring results. Although it doesn't anticipate being the case, the Committee would not like to think that its opposition to the trial will impinge in any way on such involvement.

Yours Sincerely,

David Thomas McCandless
Chief Fishery Officer

CC: Keith Wilson, Managing Director, Port of Tyne Authority