

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 30 March 2020 17:45
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: Licence to harvest

From: [REDACTED]@btconnect.com>
Sent: 20 July 2016 17:32
To: [REDACTED] gov.scot>
Cc: [REDACTED]@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: Licence to harvest

Hi [REDACTED]
Did you see the correspondence I referred to in my email, which was the MBL response to [REDACTED] when we were shown the list of requirements MS would expect to accompany a proposal?

Thanks,
[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] gov.scot [REDACTED]@gov.scot]
Sent: 20 July 2016 10:29
To: [REDACTED]@btconnect.com
Cc: [REDACTED]@gov.scot
Subject: RE: Licence to harvest

Dear [REDACTED]

Thanks you for your e-mail. I fully agree that we should be clear of the outcomes of the meeting. It is worth pointing out that the list of requirements is long and the larger the project, the more assessment is required. The benefit to all of following the EIA type process would be to allow for a period of time to screen proposals to determine what level of assessment is needed. Small scale projects being screened out at this stage, and the need for the types of assessment of proposals reflecting the scale of the proposals themselves.

On the matter of setting up a system, the advice from policy officials is that the removal of seaweed from the seabed is to be considered a licensable marine activity and therefore subject to the licensing requirements of part 4 of the Marine (Scotland) Act 2010. The setting up of a licensing system may have been appropriate if separate or amended Acts were being considered. As this is no longer the case, the activity falls under the requirements of Part 4 of the Act and thus the licensing system is an extant one for which process already exists. We can advise further on this at the meeting but for the meantime please refer to our guidance for applicants at <http://www.gov.scot/Resource/0047/00479072.pdf>. Clearly there will not be a bespoke application form for this at present but as I have already offered, we will work on this aspect.

The meeting will be attended by representatives from MS-LOT and whoever you intend to bring. However, I would advise that this is your meeting and therefore the agenda is for you to provide. We will of course provide you with the information to apply for a licence. So I agree with your intended outcome.

Meetings to discuss licensable marine activities are always significantly more productive if we have had the opportunity to see the proposed activity sufficiently in advance of the meeting to allow for a review of the proposals. It would be great if you could therefore send through any information you have on the activity you intend to apply for.

See you on the 2nd. Can you please let us know when and for how long you wish to meet?

Regards,

Mike

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@btconnect.com>
Sent: 12 July 2016 13:07
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Licence to harvest

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email offering a meeting to discuss MBL's plans. I think it is important that we both understand what outcomes we expect from the meeting.

I have indeed seen a note from [REDACTED] explaining the sort of requirements MS would expect to accompany an application. MBL saw this as completely unworkable, and provided [REDACTED] with a lengthy response. Have you seen this?

Part of the response was an offer of help from MBL in setting up a workable licensing system, which still stands. Can we work together on this?

MBL's expected outcome from the meeting is that we leave with a full understanding of the way forward to a workable licence application process, allowing us to submit an application without any further delay. I hope you agree that this is an acceptable outcome.

Could you please let me know who will be attending the meeting, what your agenda is, and what you expect as an outcome?

You mention that you would like more detail regarding MBL's plans for harvesting seaweed. Sadly, the planned location for MBL's biorefinery has been sold during the time we have been trying to get consent to harvest and is no longer available, so the harvesting plan is being revised and will be sent to you shortly. Look forward to hearing from you,

Thanks,

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@gov.scot> [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@gov.scot>
Sent: 06 July 2016 17:52
To: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@btconnect.com>
Cc: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@gov.scot>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: Licence to harvest

Dear [REDACTED]

I understand that you would like to meet now that there has been some movement on the interpretation of the legislation that makes the removal of seaweed from the seabed a licensable marine activity. We would be happy to facilitate a meeting here in Aberdeen. A suitable date would be 2nd August.

You will recall that SG has shared with you the sort of requirements we would expect to accompany an application (by email dated Monday, 6 June 2016), including the offer to 'screen' a

proposal to consider the applicability of the requirements with reference the scale of activity in the application. It would be helpful to have more detail of the proposals in order to do this.

Kind regards,

[Redacted]

From: [Redacted] [\[Redacted\]@btconnect.com](mailto:[Redacted]@btconnect.com)
Sent: 30 June 2016 10:49
To: [Redacted]
Cc: [Redacted]
Subject: Licence to harvest

Good Morning [Redacted]
Following the exchanges between [Redacted] I would like to begin the process of submitting an application to harvest seaweed as soon as possible.

When you last met with [Redacted] and me you offered to facilitate a meeting between the three of us and MSLOT/MSS. We would now like to take you up on that offer. Could you please advise who you think we should meet to move things along?

We are happy to travel to Aberdeen if necessary, and as soon as possible! Next week perhaps?

Thanks for your help,

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

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Dh'fhaodadh gum bi teachdaireachd sam bith bho Riaghaltas na h-Alba air a chlàradh neo air a sgrùdadh airson dearbhadh gu bheil an siostam ag obair gu h-èifeachdach neo airson adhbhar laghail eile. Dh'fhaodadh nach eil beachdan anns a' phost-d seo co-ionann ri beachdan Riaghaltas na h-Alba.

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From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 30 March 2020 18:35
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: Marine Biopolymers Ltd - Wild Seaweed Harvesting, West Coast of Scotland - Consultation - Response required by 25 August 2018

From: MS Marine Licensing <MS.MarineLicensing@gov.scot>
Sent: 07 August 2018 10:55
To: [REDACTED]@gov.scot>; [REDACTED]@gov.scot>
Cc: [REDACTED]@gov.scot>; [REDACTED]@gov.scot>; [REDACTED]@gov.scot>; [REDACTED]@gov.scot>; [REDACTED]@gov.scot>; [REDACTED]@gov.scot>; [REDACTED]@gov.scot>; [REDACTED]@gov.scot>
Subject: Marine Biopolymers Ltd - Wild Seaweed Harvesting, West Coast of Scotland - Consultation - Response required by 25 August 2018

Dear Sir/Madam,

MARINE (SCOTLAND) ACT 2010, PART 4 MARINE LICENSING

The Licensing Operations Team of Marine Scotland (MS-LOT) is the licensing authority, on behalf of Scottish Ministers, which determines applications for 'marine licences' under Part 4 of the Marine (Scotland) Act 2010.

An applicant has approached MS-LOT to seek a marine licence to remove seaweed (kelp) from the seabed by mechanical vessel based methods in the Scottish marine area. This would be the first application of its type in Scottish waters. The applicant's proposal is to seek a general licence to remove seaweed and then, at a later date when target areas are identified, to carry out more detailed survey and local engagement within the locality of the target areas. As such you will note the area and proposals put forward by the applicant in the Scoping Report.

MS-LOT has concluded that an environmental appraisal should be carried out to inform such an application and an Environmental Report submitted alongside any application. In order to inform the scope of this Environmental Report, the applicant has produced a Scoping Report. Please see <http://marine.gov.scot/ml/wild-seaweed-harvesting-west-coast-scotland>. Should you have any comments on the proposed scope of the Environmental Appraisal as described in the Scoping Report, I would be grateful if they could be sent to me in an electronic format (MS.MarineLicensing@gov.scot) or as a hard copy by **25th August 2018**.

Marine Scotland - Licensing Operations Team will consult further when the marine licence application and supporting Environmental Report are submitted.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]

Marine Scotland - Marine Planning & Policy

Scottish Government | Marine Laboratory | [REDACTED]

General Queries: [REDACTED]
General Email: MS.marinelicensing@gov.scot

Website: <http://www.gov.scot/Topics/marine/Licensing/marine>

Frequently
Asked
Questions

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 13 March 2020 12:25
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: Seaweed harvesting in Caithness

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@newwavefoods.co.uk>
Sent: 26 August 2019 14:34
To: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@gov.scot>
Cc: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: Seaweed harvesting in Caithness

Hi [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email, in particular for clarifying the SCE19 act. I was aware of it – although not under that acronym – but I hadn't seen the kelp species list. All of the species are part of our harvest quota in Caithness, with the exception of Saccorhiza polyschides.

Regards

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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New Wave Foods Ltd is registered in Scotland (SC512270)
Correspondence Address: [REDACTED]

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From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@gov.scot>
Sent: 26 August 2019 14:25
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Seaweed harvesting in Caithness

Good afternoon [REDACTED]

Thank you for the below information regarding the seaweed harvesting activity in Caithness.

The SCE19 act is the Scottish Crown Estate Act 2019 which was passed by Scottish Parliament on 21 November 2018. It includes a provision which will prevent managers from issuing a Crown Estate licence for the removal of certain species of wild kelp* for commercial use, from any part of the Crown Estate (including the foreshore and seabed) that inhibits the growth or recovery of the individual plant.

* (a) *Laminaria hyperborea*, (b) *Laminaria digitata*, (c) *Saccharina latissima*, (d) *Saccorhiza polyschides*, (e) *Alaria esculenta*

The passage of the Scottish Crown Estate Bill (the precursor to the Act) through Parliament raised broader questions around the types and scale of wild seaweed activity across Scotland and how seaweed is handled through the licensing process and wider planning and regulatory framework.

Roseanna Cunningham, the Cabinet Secretary for the Environment, Climate Change and Land Reform gave a commitment to a strategic programme of work, including a review of the regulatory regime for seaweed harvesting activity in Scotland. This would be informed by a seaweed review steering group with representatives from key environmental agencies, non-governmental organisations and sectoral stakeholders to advise on the work programme. Walter Speirs, as Chair of the Scottish Seaweed Industry Association, sits on the group to represent the seaweed industry interests (harvesting and cultivation).

The Seaweed Review Steering Group met for the first time on 16 May 2019. The main focus of the meeting was to agree the scope of the review, terms of reference of the steering group (including communications) and begin to discuss a forward work programme. The papers and minutes from the first meeting are now available on the Scottish Government website at:

<https://www2.gov.scot/Topics/marine/seamanagement/seaweedrev>

The SCE Act is available at <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/asp/2019/1/section/15>

As for the GDPR point below, we are not allowed to send out personal e-mail addresses or information without consent of the individual. Including this information would leave us open to further action as it isn't complying with GDPR. While you may be aware who the information is about it is up to the individual or company if they want this information released.

Kind regards

██████████

From: ██████████ newwavefoods.co.uk>
Sent: 19 August 2019 17:01
To: ██████████@gov.scot>
Subject: Seaweed harvesting in Caithness

Hi Adam,

I am emailing you to give you more information about our seaweed harvesting effort in Caithness. New Wave Foods has licences to harvest seaweed on the north and east coasts of Caithness. This includes both CES and private landowner. The total quota (for all species) is thousands of wet tonnes per annum. This is based on 20% of the total biomass on the shorelines we harvest. However, we harvest selectively by hand on foot, so our volumes are dictated by tides and weather. Our current level is under 100 wet tonnes per annum (all species). If we identified additional markets, we would quickly ramp up production to hundreds of wet tonnes per annum – but we are unlikely to reach thousands of wet tonnes due to the limitations listed above. Our operations are very different to gathering of *Ascophyllum* on the Western Isles.

Please let me know if I can be of more help.

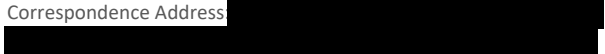
Would you also be able to tell me what the SCE19 Act is please? In relation to seaweed species harvested.

I'd also just add that while fair to exclude company names for GDPR... it's obvious to anyone in the industry who each party is... I don't know if that's an issue for you or not?

Regards



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[Redacted]

From: [Redacted]
Sent: 13 March 2020 12:24
To: [Redacted]
Subject: FW: Seaweed Review Steering Group

From: [Redacted] <[Redacted]@maraseaweed.com>
Sent: 20 March 2019 10:26
To: [Redacted] <[Redacted]@gov.scot>
Cc: [Redacted] <[Redacted]@gov.scot>
Subject: Seaweed Review Steering Group

Dear Ms [Redacted] and [Redacted]

During the Stage 3 debate on the Crown Estate (Scotland) Bill in late 2018, you made the statement:

"I am therefore announcing to Parliament today a review of the regulatory regime for all kelp harvesting activity."

I now understand that invitations to join the forthcoming Seaweed Review Steering Group have been sent. This rapid start to the process is good. However I am concerned that as one of Scotland's largest seaweed employers, with a direct interest in kelp harvesting activity, I have not been invited to participate. I appreciate that you may have invited the SSIA in the belief that this organisation represents companies such as myself. However I should point out that the structure of the SSIA is currently under review, as it does not reflect the views of the majority of seaweed companies, including my own company. Until this review is carried out to the satisfaction of its members, it is therefore vital that they are not seen as being the sole 'voice of the seaweed industry' in this review and that significant employers like myself are also able to have a voice.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours,
[Redacted]

Background on Mara Seaweed (Celtic Sea Spice Company Ltd.) , founded in 2011, has been recognised as pioneering developments in all aspects of the seaweed industry from sea to shelf. Winners of The Crown Estate Aquaculture Award in 2015, Mara is the winner of multiple awards for innovation throughout the supply chain, including a UK Food & Drink Federation award for innovation in 2018. Mara's vision, as set out at its inception, was to build a global seaweed brand from Scotland's undervalued resource. Mara is currently involved in sustainable wild harvesting of kelp, and Mara products are sold throughout the UK and in international markets. Mara recognises the value of our natural environment and seaweed's unique role in nutrition, flavour, biodiversity and seaweed's role in carbon capture.

[Redacted]
Founder & SeaEO

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