

Graham Esson
Planning Officer
Perth and Kinross Council
The Environment Service
Pullar House
35 Kinnoull Street
Perth
PH1 5GD

Longmore House
Salisbury Place
Edinburgh
EH9 1SH

Direct Line: 0131 668 8747
Direct Fax: 0131 668 8765
Switchboard: 0131 668 8600
HSSEA.gateway@scotland.gsi.gov.uk

Our ref: AMN/23/76/JLC
Your ref:

6 July 2006

Dear Graham

**Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes (Scotland) Regulations 2004
Perth and Kinross Structure Plan Alteration No. 1 Indicative Forestry Strategy:
Screening Report**

I refer to the above screening report, sent to the Scottish Executive's SEA Gateway on 8 June 2006. I note that you have prepared the screening report on a voluntary basis as your Council considers that the plan falls under Regulation 9(a) and does not require screening.

In accordance with Regulation 14(3) I have considered your screening report on behalf of Historic Scotland in its role as a Consultation Authority under the above Regulations. In doing so, I have used the criteria set out in Schedule 1 for determining the likely significance of effects on the environment.

My understanding from the screening report is that the Indicative Forestry Strategy will develop a strategic framework for forestry in Perth and Kinross. The management of existing woodlands and the development of new woodland has the potential to irreversibly affect the historic environment, and I therefore agree that the plan could result in significant environmental effects. However, it is the responsibility of the Perth and Kinross Council as the Responsible Authority to determine whether the plan requires an environmental assessment and to inform the Consultation Authorities accordingly.

I note that comments are sought on the format and level of detail of the report as it may be used for further screening consultations. I will provide comments on the screening report under separate cover.

You will no doubt be aware of the requirement under Regulation 17 to consult with the Consultation Authorities on the scope of the Environmental Report, and the length of the consultation period. In considering the scope of the Environmental Report I would draw your attention to the information requirements set out in Schedule 2 of the Regulations and to the draft Information Note published for consultation by the Consultation Authorities (copy attached).

We advise that early contact with the Consultation Authorities on scoping is useful to all parties. If I can be of further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely



Amanda Chisholm
Strategic Environmental Assessment Team Leader