

Rob Gibson MSP  
Convenor  
RACCE Committee  
Scottish Parliament  
EDINBURGH  
EH99 1SP



24 June 2015

Dear Rob

Further to my appearance before the Committee on 3 June in connection with the draft Water Environment and Water Services (Scotland) Act 2013 (Modification of Part 1) Regulations 2015, I am pleased to enclose as requested further information regarding the priority substances for which changes are introduced by these Regulations.

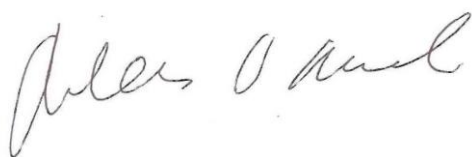
I attach a table which lists both the new substances and those for which the environmental requirements have been revised – some have tighter environmental standards but may still be used, others must be phased out. This table also describes the type of activity for which these substances are normally used; and our assessment of the implications of the changes introduced by these Regulations.

As I explained to the Committee, the impact of these changes will be fairly limited in Scotland as the vast majority of these substances have already been banned or withdrawn from use, and been replaced by less harmful products. We will continue to press the European Commission and UK Government to take appropriate action regarding the remaining substances.

Meanwhile the key tasks arising from the Regulations will fall on the Scottish Environment Protection Agency and Scottish Water to monitor and identify any pollution hotspots where action such as additional wastewater treatment may be necessary, feasible and proportionate.

I hope the Committee finds this information useful.

Kind regards



**AILEEN MCLEOD**



**Table of priority substances and assessment of impacts of new requirements**

Priority substances for which changes are introduced by these Regulations	Type of use	Likely impact
Dicofol Heptachlor and heptachlor epoxide Terbutryn Aclonifen Dichlorvos Trifluralin Hexachlorobenzene (HCB) Quinoxifen Cypermethrin	Pesticides	Limited – already banned or very restricted use
Hexabromocyclododecane (HBCDD) Perfluorooctane sulfonic acid and its derivatives (PFOS) Brominated diphenylether	Industrial use	
Dioxin & dioxin-like compounds	Combustion products	
Mercury Hexachlorobutadiene	Industrial use	Limited – pre-existing ban or obligations to phase out already in place; or pre-existing restrictions in use
Polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs) (including anthracene and fluoranthene)	Combustion products	
Cybutryne	Biocide	Limited - currently limited use in Scotland
Bifenox	Pesticide	
Nickel Lead Naphthalene (also a PAH)	Industrial use	Limited – no failures of environmental standards identified
Di(2-ethylhexyl)phthalate (DEHP)	Industrial plastics	Limited – no failures of environmental standards identified. Requirement to phase out over 20 years so action to ban may be required
Tributyltin (TBT) and compounds	Ship building/ disinfectants	Possible treatment required by Scottish Water at some wastewater treatment works.