

Altman, Rebecca

From: Pires, Andre
Sent: 08 June 2026 14:16
To: Altman, Rebecca
Subject: [CS/26/101478] MERCURY YACHT HARBOUR, SATCHELL LANE, HAMBLE-LE-RICE, SOUTHAMPTON, SO31 4HQ - Pollution comments

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Good afternoon Rebecca

Thanks for consulting the Pollution Team on the planning application CS/26/101478 for the continuation of maintenance dredging with increase in maximum allowance of silt to be dredged in any one year from 7,500m³ to 10,000m³ (no increase in total volume over 10 years) at MERCURY YACHT HARBOUR, SATCHELL LANE, HAMBLE-LE-RICE, SOUTHAMPTON, SO31 4HQ.

It is understood that current licence L/2016/00323/1 is set to expire in October 2026, and the proposal comprises to renew the licence with the same overall volume for 10 years. The application is accompanied by the following documents:

- Marina Projects Developments Ltd (January 2026). Mercury Yacht Harbour. Maintenance Dredging and disposal. WFD Impact assessment. Reference MP355-P06-TN-04
- Marina Projects Developments Ltd (January 2026). Hurst Fort Dredge Disposal. WFD Impact assessment. Reference MP355-P06-TN-05
- ABP Mer (May 2011). River Hamble Maintenance Dredge Plan. Reference R.1783

The reports indicate that although sediment analysis from early in 2025 confirmed that Copper, Nickel and Zinc are present within the source site marginally above Action Level 1 thresholds. The analysis suggested any levels of contamination are low and comparably stable and so should be assessed as suitable for disposal at sea. The Hurst Fort site is considered highly dispersive and so any deposits are unlikely to cause any measurable change in chemical contamination in the water column or seabed at the site. This will remain under review as part of the ongoing sampling and analysis regime associated with Marine Licensing.

The reports conclude that the proposed dredging and disposal activity does not introduce a potential for significant or permanent impacts to controlled waters, with any potential impacts minimised or of very short nature before subsequently returning to baseline levels.

The impact assessment focus almost its entirely content on ecology impact. Can the proposed hours of work be defined (I know it will depend on the tide etc) but will the dredging activating be carried out at nighttime hours for example ?

A MAP/figure with the location of the area where the dredging activities are proposed is also required.

Thank you

Pollution Team
Andre

Andre Pires

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