

1st March 2012

Aquaculture & Fisheries Bill Consultation Team c/o Catriona Graham 1B-North, Victoria Quay, Edinburgh EH6 6QQ

Dear Ms Catriona Graham,

## **Aquaculture and Fisheries Bill Consultation**

This letter represents my views as an employee of Loch Duart Ltd. The Directors of the company have detailed their precise criticisms of the consultation document in a separate letter.

Loch Duart Ltd, established in 1999, employs 116 people. Our offices are in Sutherland, the Hebrides and Montrose. The company is a 2008 Queen's Award winner based on outstanding export achievement. We export over 60% of our salmon to 14 countries around the world. Loch Duart is Freedom Food approved, Label Rouge accredited, IIP accredited with the ISO14001 Environmental Management System accreditation for our operations.

This letter is to show my support for the Directors' comments. In particular, I want a more supportive position from Marine Scotland and I totally reject the suggestion that the Scottish Government could plan a law making us legally responsible for non-compliances for the FHI report. We believe that we are producing a fine, healthy Scottish food carefully observing all the many regulations which seem to dominate our working lives.

Our work brings us into contact with New Zealand and Canadian salmon farmers who receive huge support from their government. My signature below represents a cry out for support from the Scottish Government. I wholeheartedly support the Directors' of Loch Duart in opposing issues in this consultancy document which would damage our business.

**Yours Sincerely** 



Mr Alex Dawson