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Your reference:
Our reference:
27 September 2005

Dear Mr Mackey



**DRAFT PLANNING (ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT) (AMENDMENT)
REGULATIONS (NORTHERN IRELAND) 2005**

I refer to Marianne Fleming's letter to me dated 4 August.

EIA affects our work insofar as proposed development that falls within the schedules may require an assessment. Hence, for example, a comprehensive development scheme or certain projects to renew neighbourhoods may involve EIA.

Having read the paper on your website, I see nothing in particular that should concern this office. Its theme, which is to foster increased public participation in environmental decision-making, is something that we have promoted in community-led regeneration work. Other than that I have no comment on the consultation paper.

Yours sincerely

MICHAEL McSORLEY