

Application for an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Screening Decision



For official use only

Sequential number:

Date application received:

Section 1 – Business details

Business name

Business address

Postcode

Contact name

Telephone number

Mobile number

Email

Main Location Code (MLC)

Business Reference Number (BRN)

Do I need to complete this form?

A: For projects that involve the use of uncultivated land* or semi-natural areas* for more intensive agricultural purposes:

You should complete **sections 1, 2, 3a, 4, 5, and 7** of this form.

B: For projects that involve restructuring of rural land holdings on agricultural land:

You should complete **sections 1, 2, 3b, 4, 5 and 7** of this form if you are planning any of the following work on agricultural land in Scotland;

Activity	Outside a sensitive area	Within a sensitive area **
Add or remove any field boundary (e.g. fences etc)	6 km or more	Always
Removing hedge or drystone dyke	0.5 km	Always
Move earth, rock or any other material	5,000 m ³	Always
Restructuring an area greater than	200 ha	Always

Please note that the thresholds apply to the total area of land where the work is to take place even if it is undertaken bit-by-bit over one or several seasons, or if it involves different types of work. A project may involve more than one type of restructuring referred to in the table above. If any of the elements of the restructuring is above the threshold, the entire project is subject to the screening procedures, and all elements should be included in this application.

C: For projects that involve new Irrigation and/or new Drainage:

For Irrigation

- **If you are extracting water to irrigate crops with mobile equipment** you should contact SEPA to obtain an extraction licence and don't need to complete this form.
- **If you are proposing to build fixed infrastructure** for example a water storage lagoon with fixed permanent pumps and pipes, you should first find out if you need planning permission from the Local Authority. If you do, then you do not need to complete this form - apply to the Local Authority for Planning permission and SEPA for an abstraction licence. If your proposals don't require planning permission from the local authority and include fixed equipment/water storage site, then you do need to complete **section 1, 2, 3c, 4, 5 and 7** of this form in addition to contacting SEPA for an abstraction licence.

For Drainage

- Maintenance of existing drainage on improved/ intensively managed land does not require this form to be submitted. If the land is reverting to an unimproved/seminatural* state fill in **section 1, 2, 3c, 4, 5 and 7** of this form. If you propose to carry out new drainage in a sensitive** area you need to fill in **section 1, 2, 3c, 4, 5 and 7** of this form.
- If you propose to carry out new drainage outside a sensitive** area above 1 ha, you need to fill in **section 1, 2, 3c, 4, 5** of this form.

**SGRPID consider land that has not been improved (e.g. spraying, liming, ploughing, draining, and reseeding such areas) or intensively farmed for around 15 years to fall into this category, contact us for more guidance if you're unsure.*

***Sensitive areas are: - Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), Special Area of Conservation (SAC), Special Protection Area (SPA), National Scenic Area (NSA) or land with a Nature Conservation order.*

Section 2 – Project description and potential impacts

Please provide a description of your whole project, and a map. To ensure these include all the necessary information a check list has been provided below, please ensure that each section has been included in your report on page 4, otherwise your application risks being rejected.

Project Description;

- An overview of the project
- A description of the environmental sensitivity of the geographic area of the project
- Is the proposed work on common land?
- A detailed map of the project and surrounding area
- Is there any other information relevant to this application (e.g. access rights, core paths etc)

Likely environmental effect of the proposed changes covering;

- Soil
- Land
- Water
- Biodiversity/habitats
- Historical, cultural and/or archaeological considerations
- Include any significant features listed above on your project map (e.g. badger sett, scheduled ancient monuments etc)

If applicable, the report can include measures which are being put in place to avoid or prevent any likely significant adverse effects from the project.

Project description and potential impacts

removal of a number of run down drystone dykes which form boundaries between fields on land purchased, dykes are all in state of disrepair and are not fit for purpose any more so would like to remove them to make fields larger and more in keeping with modern agricultural practices, also require new fences as dykes are not stock proof so the stones which have become dislodged make this very difficult.

Continue on a separate sheet if necessary

Section 3a – Semi-natural areas - site details and proposed operations:

<p>Site description. (Please describe the main features of the land, including watercourses and drainage systems, vegetation, wildlife and habitats)</p>	<p>If different from Main Location Name of Farm:</p>
	<p>Location code:</p> <p>For example: <i>The field was previously improved grassland but has reverted to native grasses and rushes. Enclosed by dykes and wire fence. It has a failing drainage system. Gorse / scrub is found at corners.</i></p>

Please complete the table below.

Land Parcel Identifier	Letter of proposed works on map	Area of proposed work (ha)	Description of the proposed work (mark exact area of project on map referred to in section 3a).
AB/12345/12345	a	15	<i>Example: Spraying off current vegetation, plough, lime, reseed with modern grass mix</i>

* Please note that 1 hectare = 2.471 acres; and 1 acre = 0.405 ha

If necessary, please tick this box and continue on a separate sheet

Section 3b – Restructuring - site details and proposed operations:

<p>Site description. (Please describe the main features of the land, including watercourses and drainage systems, vegetation, wildlife and habitats)</p> <p>Majority of surrounding land is arable ground with broken dykes splitting very small fields.</p>	<p>If different from Main Location Name of Farm:</p> <p>Location code:</p> <p>For example: <i>The site covers 12 fields of improved grassland pasture, with some dystane dykes but mostly wire fence. It has maintained tile drains. Gorse / scrub is found at corners.</i></p>
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Please complete the table below.

Land Parcel Identifier	Letter of proposed works on map	Length, width, and depth (as applicable) of proposed work (m)	Volume of material to be distributed (m ³) (if applicable)	Description of the proposed work (mark exact area of project on map referred to in section 3a).
AB/12345/12345	A	50 m x 5 m x 1 m	250 m ³	<i>Example. a – strip back topsoil, break and spread rock, replace soil and grade level, and reseed.</i>
	B	750 m	n/a	<i>Example b – Demolish 750 m of dilapidated dyke, and reuse stone to repair dykes elsewhere on holding.</i>
NJ/83191/18174	Field 43	220m		demolish 220m, on the eastern boundary of the field, of dilapidated dyke and reuse stone elsewhere on the holding
NJ/83075/17636	Field 40	260m 255m		demolish 260m, on the north side of field, and 255m, on south boundary of field, of dilapidated dyke and reuse stone elsewhere on the holding
NJ/83192/17549	Field 44	140m		demolish 140m, on the eastern boundary of the field, of dilapidated dyke and reuse stone elsewhere on the holding

If necessary, please tick this box and continue on a separate sheet

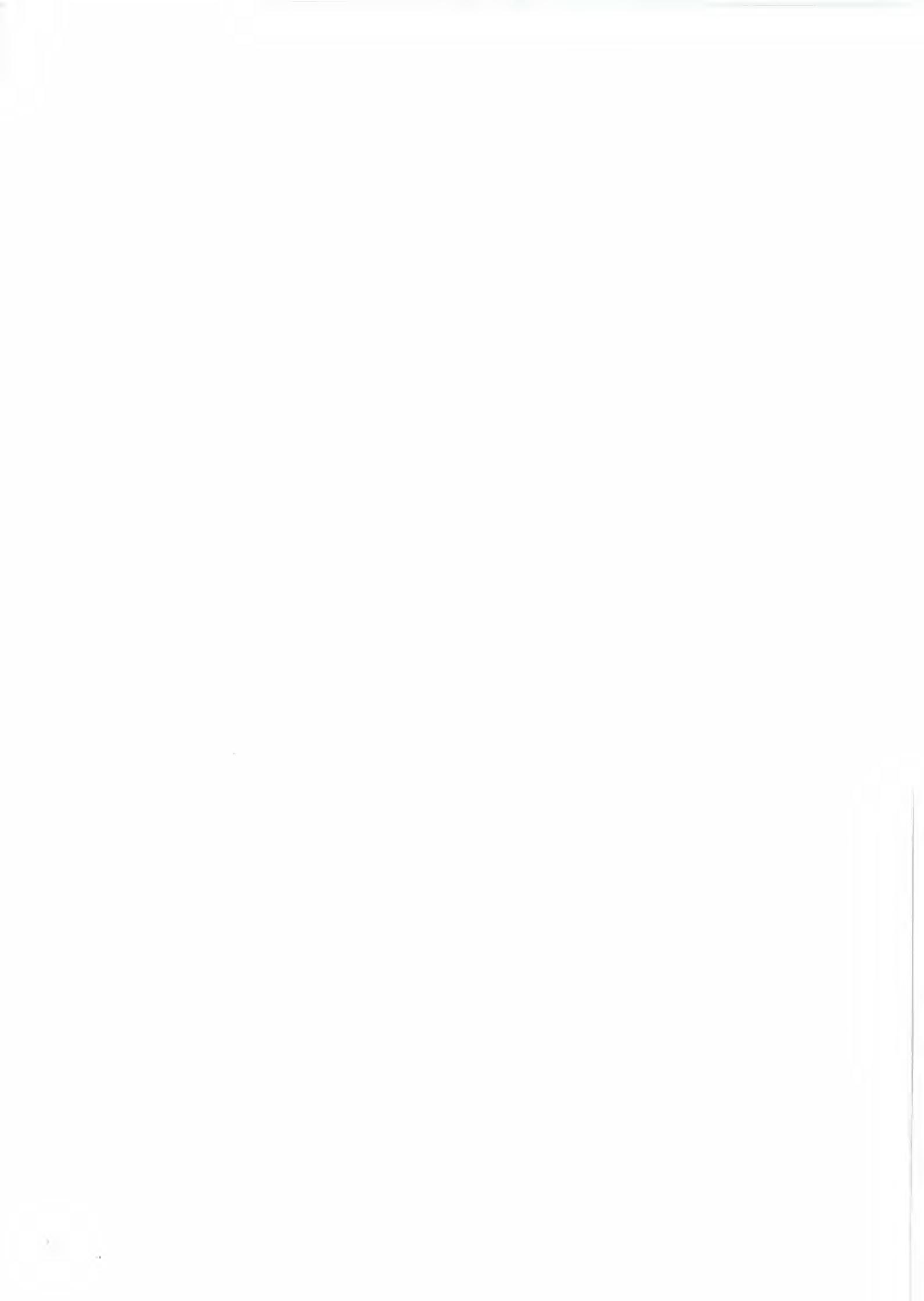
Section 3b – Restructuring - site details and proposed operations:

<p>Site description. (Please describe the main features of the land, including watercourses and drainage systems, vegetation, wildlife and habitats)</p>	<p>If different from Main Location Name of Farm:</p>
	<p>Location code:</p> <p>For example: The site covers 12 fields of improved grassland pasture, with some drystone dykes but mostly wire fence. It has maintained tile drains. Gorse / scrub is found at corners.</p>

Please complete the table below.

Land Parcel Identifier	Letter of proposed works on map	Length, width, and depth (as applicable) of proposed work (m)	Volume of material to be distributed (m ³) (if applicable)	Description of the proposed work (mark exact area of project on map referred to in section 3a).
AB/12345/12345	A	50 m x 5 m x 1 m	250 m ³	Example a – strip back topsoil, break and spread rock, replace soil and grade level, and reseed.
	B	750 m	n/a	Example b – Demolish 750 m of dilapidated dyke, and reuse stone to repair dykes elsewhere on holding.
NJ/83251/17459	Field 47	230m		demolish 230m, on the southern boundary of the field, of dilapidated dyke and reuse stone elsewhere on the holding
NJ/83435/17507	Field 51	175m		demolish 175m, on the southern boundary of the field, of dilapidated dyke and reuse stone elsewhere on the holding
NJ/83355/17319	field 48	175m		demolish 175m, on the eastern boundary of the field, of dilapidated dyke and reuse stone elsewhere on the holding

If necessary, please tick this box and continue on a separate sheet



Section 3c – Drainage and irrigation - Site details and proposed operations:

<p>Site description. (Please describe the main features of the land, including watercourses and drainage systems, vegetation, wildlife and habitats)</p>	<p>If different from Main Location Name of Farm:</p>
	<p>Location code:</p> <p>For example: The site is part of an existing arable field, cropped annually.</p>

Please complete the table below.

Land Parcel Identifier	Letter of proposed works on map	Area to be drained / irrigated (ha)	Description of the proposed work (mark exact area of project on map referred to in section 3a).
AB/12345/12345	a	4	Example – Insert new piped drainage system (125 mm leader, 80 mm spurs 10 m average spacing) running to nearby burn to lower the water table to allow greater range of cropping. Map of layout included separately.

* Please note that 1 hectare = 2.471 acres; and 1 acre = 0.405 ha

If necessary, please tick this box and continue on a separate sheet

Section 4 – Changes to Management

Complete this section if you are proposing to change how you manage this land. Please provide information about how all the land in question has been managed in the past. You should cover the last 15 years if possible and provide information for ALL fields affected by your proposed project.

LPID	Past management	Proposed management
AB/12345/12345	<p><i>Example: Sheep grazing field, average stocking 40 head. Not cut for forage. Last limed and reseeded in 2001. Currently receives 125 kg/ha compound fertiliser annually.</i></p>	<p><i>Example: Silage field, cut 3 times per year. Intensive slurry and compound fertiliser. Field will be limed and reseeded every 5 years.</i></p>
NJ/83191/18174, NJ/83075/17636, NJ/83192/17549, NJ/83251/17459, NJ/83435/17507, NJ/83355/17319	<p>fields have been arable with mainly spring barley grown in them for majority of last 15 years,</p>	<p>plan to get them into more of a rotation with grassland and arable and allow for stock grazing to take place on them with a number of the dykes removed to make larger more suitable fields for modern agricultural machinery</p>

Section 5 – How we use your information



Please refer to the EIA Privacy Notice on the following webpage:

<https://www.ruralpayments.org/topics/inspections/all-inspections/cross-compliance/environmental-impact-assessment/eia-overview/eia-privacy-notice/>

If you require a paper copy, please contact your local area office.

Section 6 – Declaration

Applicants should note that it is an offence to provide false information (knowingly or recklessly) to obtain a screening decision.

- I understand that I will be legally obliged to comply with any decision granted in respect of this application and conditions attached to it.
- I have read the guidance on The Agriculture, Land Drainage and Irrigation Projects (Environmental Impact Assessment) (Scotland) Regulations 2017 available on [Rural Payments and Services](#).
- I declare that the information given in my application is correct to the best of my knowledge and belief, and I apply for a screening decision in accordance with these particulars.

APPLICANT

Signature

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Name
(Block Capitals)

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Status of person
signing

Agent

(For example, Director, company secretary, or other duly authorised officer)

Agent ID number
(if applicable)

--	--

Date

2	4	/	0	7	/	2	0	2	5
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IMPORTANT – CHECK LIST

- Answered all the questions.
- If necessary, attached any separate sheet(s) required.

If we consider that you have not supplied sufficient information to make a screening decision, we will request the additional information in writing. If you do not supply the required information then the application will be rejected.

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 15 August 2025 13:42
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: MB 2235 (related to previous requests MB 1622 and MB 1675) [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Variation Request for Dyke Removal
Attachments: Dyke removal map 2025 EIA.pdf; EIA screening application [REDACTED] additional page 6.pdf; EIA screening application [REDACTED].pdf

Hi [REDACTED]

Attached and below as discussed.

Thanks,

[REDACTED]
Agricultural Officer
Scottish Government
Rural Payments and Inspections Division
Thainstone Court
Inverurie
AB51 5YA
Mobile: [REDACTED]
Email: [REDACTED]



From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 31 July 2025 10:45
To: SGRPID Thainstone <SGRPID.Thainstone@gov.scot>
Subject: MB 2235 (related to previous requests MB 1622 and MB 1675) - [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Variation Request for Dyke Removal

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 25 July 2025 08:24
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: [REDACTED] Variation Request for Dyke Removal - MB 1675-20250617 (D1)

Morning [REDACTED]

This came in to me direct. Can you please mailbook and create a task etc. Please note this replaces the two tasks currently in the D1 P&T bucket for dyke removal for the same code number so they can be closed. The screening requests are considered by the District SAO so [REDACTED] will need to be informed.

Thanks

[Redacted]
From: [Redacted]

Sent: 24 July 2025 14:09

To: [Redacted]

Subject: RE: [Redacted] Variation Request for Dyke Removal - MB 1675-20250617 (D1)

Good Afternoon [Redacted]

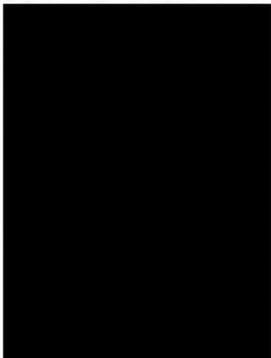
Please see attached, hopefully this is everything required but any further info needed let me know.

Kind Regards
[Redacted]

Senior Agricultural Consultant & Area Manager [Redacted]

Tel: [Redacted] Mob: [Redacted] Fax: [Redacted] Web: [Redacted]

[Read our Terms & Conditions](#)



From: [Redacted]

Sent: 04 July 2025 09:09

To: [Redacted]

Subject: RE: [Redacted] Variation Request for Dyke Removal - MB 1675- 20250617 (D1)

[NOTE] This email originated from outside of the organisation. Do not click links, open attachments or scan QR codes unless you recognise the sender email address and know the content is safe.

Good Morning [Redacted]

I didn't realise when I spoke to you previously that we have already approved almost 500m of dyke removal on this holding last year. This being the case, because dyke removal is considered a cumulative project, this new request will have to be submitted on the EIA screening request application form attached. You can also add back in the dyke you took out from the original request if you wish, seeing that we are now going to be over the 500m anyway. Any queries just get in touch.

Thanks

[Redacted]
Higher Agricultural Officer

RPID
Thainstone Court
Inverurie
Aberdeenshire
AB51 5YA

From: [Redacted]

Sent: 17 June 2025 11:41

To: SGRPID Thainstone <sgrpид.thainstone@gov.scot>

Subject: [Redacted] Variation Request for Dyke Removal - MB 1675- 20250617
(D1)

Dyke Removal Request

[Redacted]

Good Morning,
The above business would like to remove several dykes as marked on the attached map in red which supersedes the previously supplied map on 11th of June 2025. The dykes condition has deteriorated over time and they are no longer stock proof, they would also like to increase the sizes of the fields to make them more practical for modern day machinery. Any further information required please let me know.

Kind Regards

[Redacted]
Senior Agricultural Consultant & Area Manager [Redacted]

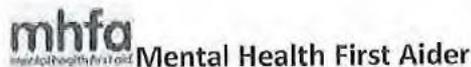
Tel: [Redacted]

Mob: [Redacted]

Fax: [Redacted]

Web: [Redacted]

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