

14/11/00

Our File Ref. 7.5.9

Miss. Isobel Austin
Hazardous Substances Scientist
The Environment Agency
EHS National Centre
Evenlode House
Howbery Park
Wallingford
Oxon OX10 8BD

14/11/00

Dear Miss. Austin,

**Consenting of Dangerous Substances in Discharges
To Surface Waters – Agency Draft Procedure**

Having read the consultation paper issued on 25th August 2000 I can advise that the Institution does not have any specific comment to make on the proposals. Any improvement in the level of control over discharge processes is to be welcomed and these proposals are based on an upgrade of existing processes for which there is a good body of experience.

Our concerns remain to be the EFFECTIVENESS overall of the measures. Despite an improvement generally in water quality, the recent spate of contamination events have increased concern and must undermine confidence in the ability of industry to self-monitor to the level required. Our plea would generally be for the highest level of spot-checking by the Agency that could be achieved.

Yours sincerely,



Dr. R. A. Fuller
Hon. Secretary