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Your ref:

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Dear Mr MacKenzie

**Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005
Highland Council Drumnadrochit Futures: A Vision and Actions: Screening Report**

Thank you for consulting Historic Scotland on the screening report for Highland Council's Drumnadrochit Futures, received by the Scottish Government's SEA Gateway on 28 May 2008. I have reviewed the screening report on behalf of Historic Scotland in its role as a Consultation Authority in accordance with Section 9(3) of the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005. In doing so, I have used the criteria set out in schedule 2 for determining the likely significance of effects on the environment.

My understanding from the screening report is that the Drumnadrochit Futures will inform reviews of the adopted Inverness Local Plan. I note that subject to approval it may provide Supplementary Guidance.

I consider that the Drumnadrochit Futures has the potential to significantly affect the historic environment given the purpose of the vision and actions document and the character of the area.

While this view does not concur with the conclusion set out in the screening report, I note that an SEA will be carried out. I would therefore draw your attention to the requirement under Section 15 to consult with the Consultation Authorities on the scope and level of detail of the Environmental Report, and the length of the consultation period. Guidance is provided in the Scottish Government's SEA Tool Kit (available at <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2006/09/13104943/0>).

Please note that this response is solely in the context of the SEA Act and our role as a Consultation Authority. Historic Scotland will respond separately to the Consultation on the Drumnadrochit Futures document by 15th August 2008.

Please do not hesitate to contact Alasdair McKenzie on 0131 668 8924 should you wish to discuss this response.

Yours sincerely

Jennifer Craig
Acting Strategic Environmental Assessment Team Leader