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Our ref: AMN/23/448 AM
Your ref:

15 October 2009

Dear Ms Stott

**Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005
The Highland Council: SPG on Developer Contributions for new housing
development accessed off the single track road network
Screening Report**

Thank you for consulting Historic Scotland on the screening report for the Highland Council's Supplementary Planning Guidance (SPG) on the above developer contributions received by the Scottish Government's SEA Gateway on 14 October 2009. 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. Please note that this view is based on our main area of interest for the historic environment.

My understanding from the screening report is that the SPG will provide guidance on developer contributions with specific reference to those relating to new housing and the existing single track road network. I note that while the guidance may influence future Local Development Plan policies, it will not influence the decision taken on development. I note that it is the Highland Council's view that the SPG is unlikely to have significant environmental effects, and in light of the information contained in the screening report I agree with this conclusion.

As you will be aware, however, it is the responsibility of the Highland Council as the Responsible Authority to determine whether the strategy requires an environmental assessment and to inform the Consultation Authorities accordingly. Should you determine that an environmental assessment of the SPG is required, I draw your



attention to the information requirements set out in schedule 3 of the Act and to the Scottish Government 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. Please do not hesitate to contact me on 0131 668 8924 should you wish to discuss this response.

Yours sincerely



Alasdair M^cKenzie
Strategic Environmental Assessment Team Leader