

Your Ref: MLA/2016/00227

Our Ref: MNA 053/008/0028

Date: 06 September 2017

**MLA/2016/00227 Goodwin Sands Aggregate Dredging Scheme**

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the potential impact of the above proposed works on the interests of navigation.

The proposal has been examined by staff of the Navigation Safety Branch and it can be noted that the Maritime and Coastguard Agency (MCA) has no objection to consent being granted provided that a reference is made within the marine licence recommending that the operator be aware of the Guide to Good Practice for ensuring Navigation Safety during Dredging Operations that has been formalised between the British Marine Aggregate Producers Association (BMAPA), MCA and THLS. And that a copy of the current version of the Guide is sent to them with the licence.

It should also be noted that it is incumbent upon the operator that measures are also taken to ensure that details of the proposed works are promulgated to maritime users through notice to mariners and/or navigational warnings.

Please note, however, that a charge will be levied on the operators where appropriate, by MCA, for the transmission of maritime safety information, via Navtex or Coastguard VHF radio network, in respect of the proposed works. Agreement by the developers to pay any such charges should, ideally, be a condition of the consent if they are likely to be used.

Navigation Safety Branch