

**COUNCIL FOR NATURE CONSERVATION  
AND THE COUNTRYSIDE**  
**An Advisory Council to the Department of the Environment**

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**AIL/2011/0004 – Mr E.Holmes, 27, Grove Road, Garvagh – Abstraction at Agivey River**

Dear Heather,

CNCC has looked at the proposals for impoundment and abstraction at the Agivey River for the purposes of generating electricity by an Archimedes Screw generator. We find it difficult to comment on the technical aspects of this proposal, since most of the information given lies outside our area of expertise.

However we read the paper on the effect of the Archimedes Screw on Eels and Kelts with interest, and feel reasonably content that the damage done by such a device should be minimal. Given that the Agivey River is well-known for its population of Atlantic Salmon, *Salmo salar*, a Priority Species under the European Habitats Directive, we would have wished to see some data on the size of the population using the river, and the effect on that population of the abstraction of significant volumes of water over a 320m stretch of water. Indeed there are no biological data provided for the river, so we cannot know that other important species may not be affected.

We would suggest that for such impoundment and abstraction licence applications there should be accompanying data on the effect on the biological component of the river system as well as on the physical component.

I hope that this is helpful. If you wish to discuss further please do not hesitate to contact us at the above address.

Yours sincerely



**Patrick Casement, Chairman**