



HOUSE OF LORDS
European Union Committee

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30 September 2020

Victoria Prentis MP
Parliamentary Under Secretary of State
Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs
Seacole Block
2 Marsham Street
London, SW1P 4DF

Dear Victoria,

EM 7153/20: Proposal for a REGULATION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL amending Regulation (EU) No 1379/2013 and Regulation (EU) No 508/2014 as regards specific measures to mitigate the impact of the COVID-19 outbreak in the fishery and aquaculture sector

Thank you for your letter dated 14 August on the above Regulation, which was considered by our Environment Sub-Committee on 30 September 2020.

Thank you for your explanation of how the Regulation will be used to support the aquaculture sector in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland, and of the alternative measures in place in England.

We also note your findings that most European Maritime and Fisheries Fund (EMFF) projects are likely to go ahead, albeit with potential delays, and thus that it is unlikely that significant funding will be released for use as COVID-19 recovery funds.

How do you intend to replace EMFF funding from 2021 onwards?

The Committee continues to take an active interest in this matter and we would therefore welcome being kept updated on developments. We look forward to a response in 10 working days.

I am copying this letter to Sir William Cash MP, Chair of the Commons European Scrutiny Committee; Jessica Mulley, Clerk to the Commons Committee; Les Saunders, Cabinet Office; and John Leach, Departmental Scrutiny Coordinator.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'L. Kinnoull', with a horizontal line underneath.

Lord Kinnoull
Chair of the European Union Committee