CONSIDERATION OF PE 1277

The Committee suspended consideration of the Petition on 9th Feb 2010 pending completion of the joint study by British Geological Survey and Scottish Natural Heritage to establish the evidence base for a geodiversity framework for Scotland. I am writing following our recent telephone conversation about when the study will be completed.

Scottish Natural Heritage have indicated that the report with the British Geological Survey should be available in January, which will allow for a process of internal quality assurance of the evidence base and the development of formal advice.

Once the Scottish Government has received and considered the joint report we will be better placed to respond to any questions the Committee may have on this policy area. In the meantime we will continue to liaise with both the British Geological Survey and Scottish Natural Heritage on production of the report.

Yours sincerely

R N McNeill

10th November 2010