



The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

Net Zero, Energy and Transport Committee

Nicole Paterson
Chief Executive Officer
Scottish Environment Protection Agency

07 October 2025

Dear Ms Paterson,

Environmental Authorisations (Scotland) Regulations 2025

The Committee formally considered the above regulations at its [meeting on 25 March](#) and published our [report](#) on 23 April. As you are aware, these regulations gave effect to the Integrated Authorisation Framework (“the framework”). This aims to streamline SEPA’s authorisation processes across various key areas of environmental regulation by bringing four regulated areas - water, waste, radioactive substances and pollution prevention and control - under one framework.

Through our scrutiny of these regulations, you highlighted SEPA’s preparatory work for the new framework, as part of its wider digital transformation, and the establishment of a governance group to oversee implementation and monitor progress. The Committee agreed it would like an update on progress in the autumn of this year, as noted in our report.

1. I would be grateful if you could provide the Committee with an update on how the framework is progressing, and any issues that have been identified so far.

In its report on the regulations, the Committee also urged the Scottish Government and SEPA to ensure high stakeholder awareness of the new General Binding Rules introduced by the Regulations, and sufficient resource for public information and communications campaigns about this.

2. Could you please also update the Committee on any work that has been undertaken in this respect?

Yours sincerely,

Edward Mountain MSP

Convener

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