

Our Ref: JK/CD/JW/
EXT05-A-
F0186058

Your Ref: -

22 December 2015

Ned Sharratt
Assistant Clerk
Public Petitions Committee
The Scottish Parliament
Edinburgh EH99 1SP

By email: petitions@scottish.parliament.uk

Dear Mr Sharratt

CONSIDERATION OF PETITION PE1563 (Sewage sludge spreading)
Calling on the Scottish Parliament to urge the Scottish government to ban the use of sewage sludge on land and to look for alternative acceptable methods of disposal as adopted in other European countries

Thank you for your recent letter advising that the Public Petitions Committee considered Petition PE1563 again on 8 December 2015 and had further questions for SEPA.

Our response to the questions raised by the Public Petitions Committee is attached.

As a public body committed to openness and transparency, SEPA feels it is appropriate that this response be placed on the public record. If you require further clarification on any aspect of this correspondence, please contact Chris Dailly, Waste and Landfill Tax Manager, SEPA Stirling Office, at the address shown below.

Yours sincerely

John Kenny
Head of National Operations

Enc



Chairman
David Sigsworth

Chief Executive
Terry A'Hearn

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“The Committee was interested in details of contractors that dispose of sludge by landfill. The Committee would also like to know how widespread this practice is and whether landfill sites are located near to residential areas.”

As detailed in previous submissions, the proportion of sewage sludge disposed of to landfill in Scotland is small (since 2011, this has typically been around 1% of the total produced per annum).

The tonnages of sewage sludge disposed of to landfill in Scotland are set out in Table 1 of SEPA’s response to the Committee of 4th September 2015.

Scottish Water has confirmed that Scottish sewage sludge is disposed of to landfill in the Shetland Isles only. This sewage sludge arises from a Scottish Water facility in Shetland and is transported a short distance from the site of production by Scottish Water vehicles to Gremista landfill site.

Gremista landfill is located within a relatively remote residential area with the nearest residential area is approximately 1 kilometre distant.

SEPA
22 December 2015