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Redacted

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Dear Redacted

06473 - Clyde Waterfront Renfrew Riverside (CWRR) project – Renfrewshire Council (per Sweco) – Construction of Moving Bridge over River Clyde; 06474 – Clyde Waterfront Renfrew Riverside (CWRR) project – Renfrewshire Council (per Sweco) – Capital Dredging of emergency berthing facility

I have read these two licence applications on behalf of RYA Scotland and have discussed them with Redacted. I have also discussed relevant issues with Peelport Clydeport in their role as Harbour Authority. I have no comments to make about the capital dredging application.

Initially I had concerns that the bridge might discourage recreational sailors from sailing to the centre of Glasgow, something that has been encouraged in recent years. Indeed one of the motivations behind the 2014 Commonwealth Flotilla that saw 250 boats make passage from Greenock to a pop-up marina in Princes Dock was to demonstrate the potential for encouraging marine tourism on this part of the Clyde. However, I have been assured that there is no intention to inhibit recreational vessels from ascending the river and that the bridge will be opened for recreational craft that require it on a similar basis to commercial craft, provided that reasonable warning is given. Although details of the opening protocols still need to be finalised, I am confident that they will be satisfactory. For this reason I am happy to support the application.

For the sake of clarity and avoidance of doubt I recommend that the following four conditions be attached to the licence although I know that these issues are being dealt with:

1. The right of navigation for recreational vessels through the bridge is protected;
2. Provision is made for recreational vessels to tie up or moor in case of emergency, as is proposed for commercial vessels;
3. The position of the tideboard at Rothesay Dock is reviewed and consideration given to whether another is needed upstream of the bridge;
4. Publicity is given to the construction and opening arrangements through the *Clyde Leisure Navigation Guide* published by Peelports Clydeport and the Clyde Cruising Club *Sailing Directions and Anchorages – Firth of Clyde including Solway Firth and North Channel*;
5. Passage through the bridge should be free of charge.

In relation to the fourth point, RYA Scotland will be happy to assist in publicising the arrangements to the recreational boating community and will work with Peelports Clydeport and the bridge operator to that end.

Finally, I note that there are also plans for a footbridge at Govan which will mean that vessels with masts intending to berth at the Crown Plaza or Pacific Quay pontoons will have to arrange for the opening of three bridges. It would be good if encouragement could be given to effective co-ordination between the operators of the three bridges and indeed with the existing Clydeport reporting system.

Yours sincerely,


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