

The North Sea Regional Advisory Council



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Mr Björn Risinger
Director General
Swedish Agency for Marine and Water Management
Box 11930, SE-404
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Sweden

26th February, 2014

Dear Mr Risinger,

Dumping of contaminated dredged material in Kattegat

The Skagerrak and Kattegat Working Group of the North Sea Regional Advisory Council (NSRAC) noted some time ago that a Swedish court granted the municipality of Falkenberg exemption from the prohibition against dumping dredged material in the sea and that that was possible to happen without the Swedish Agency for Marine and Water Management acting or protesting.

The Working Group finds this very strange, since the dredged material is contaminated and was allowed to be dumped within the closed areas for fishing in the Kattegat. The Working Group's opinion is that an environmental policy that allows such dumping while at the same time establishing areas to protect cod is perverse and simply does not make sense.

The Skagerrak and Kattegat Working Group is not satisfied with this and think that this matter has not been handled correct. We would like to express that we find it a serious contradiction in terms with closing areas for the protection of cod and then allowing dumping of contaminated dredged material within the same areas. Our opinion is that the Agency should have acted to prevent this from happening.

Yours sincerely,

Niels Wichmann
Chairman, Executive Committee

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