



Australian Government

Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts

Grant Pullen
Manager (Wild Fisheries)
Department of Primary Industries and Water
GPO Box 44
HOBART TAS 7001

Dear Mr Pullen

Thank you for your letter of 15 April 2009 advising that the Department of Primary Industries and Water do not intend to seek continued export accreditation under the *Environment and Biodiversity Protection Act 1999* (EPBC Act) for the Tasmanian Octopus Fishery (TOF).

As you are aware the Wildlife Trade Operation declaration for the TOF will expire on 5 July 2009, and that export of product harvested in the fishery after this date is illegal. I understand that no operators are currently exporting product harvested from the TOF.

I note that officers from your department have discussed this issue with the fishers of the TOF. However, I consider it important that licensees are formally notified of the lapse of the accreditation as soon as possible to ensure they understand that export of product harvested from the fishery after 5 July 2009 contravenes the EPBC Act.

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Please note that the TOF may be reconsidered for export approval at any time, subject to a full reassessment under the EPBC Act. Should you wish to pursue this, please contact Mr Sean Lane, Director, Sustainable Fisheries – telephone 026274 1917 or email Sean.Lane@environment.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

Nigel Routh
Assistant Secretary
Marine Biodiversity Policy Branch

27 May 2009

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