

creating a better place



Gareth Phillips  
Chairman  
Project Developer Forum  
100 New Bridge Street  
London  
EC4V 6JA

**Our ref:** TG/hj/3816/170712/GPhillips

**Your ref:**

**Date:** 17 July 2012

Dear Mr Phillips

**Letter concerning the issuance of UK letter of approval for CDM and JI projects**

Thank you for your letter dated 25 June 2012 concerning our resources for issuance of UK Letters of Approval (LOAs). Dr Leinster has asked me to reply on his behalf.

As you kindly acknowledge, Environment Agency staff have made significant efforts to issue LOAs well within the two month approval times required by the Department of Energy and Climate Change (DECC). However, as you have also noted, due to unprecedented levels of applications we have not recently been able to issue LOAs as quickly as before for many projects and in particular for large hydropower projects.

We appreciate the significance of the deadlines for project registration and procedural changes and to expedite consideration of project applications we have expanded our team from the beginning of July. We are required to refer all large scale hydropower project applications to DECC for a technical evaluation before we are permitted to issue an LOA. We have therefore also raised your concerns with DECC colleagues and are working with them to endeavour to keep approval times within two months.

I am grateful for your support and I hope that the above reassures you that we are taking action to improve our approval times.

If you have any queries or would like to discuss the content of this letter further please contact Haydn Jones (tel: 07747 118 278), email: [haydn.jones@environment-agency.gov.uk](mailto:haydn.jones@environment-agency.gov.uk), who leads on this issue for the Environment Agency.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tony Grayling".

Tony Grayling  
Head of Climate Change and Communities

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