

WRITTEN QUESTION E-3027/10  
by Joe Higgins (GUE/NGL)  
to the Commission

Subject: Habitats Directive - Sruwaddacon estuary

Should a derogation be sought from the Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC<sup>1</sup>) by the Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government in Ireland prior to its consideration of Shell's application to undertake an invasive survey in the Sruwaddacon estuary? That estuary has been designated a Special Area of Conservation and is entitled to EU protection under the Habitats Directive. The proposed survey would involve a massive assault on the integrity of the Sruwaddacon estuary, with the drilling of 80 boreholes there.

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<sup>1</sup> OJ L 206, 22.7.1992, p.7.