

Dores and Essich Community Council  
[secdorescc@gmail.com](mailto:secdorescc@gmail.com)

Ben Hadfield  
COO for Farming Scotland, Ireland and Faroes  
Mowi Scotland Ltd  
23/08/21

Dear Sir,

I have been asked to write to you on behalf of the Community Council after our most recent CC meeting after we had discussed your letter of 2nd August addressed to our Chairperson.

We have worked closely with the previous owner of the fish farm and with your representatives since the fish farm has been present on Loch Ness. We contacted them as soon as the cages were moved and the information we were given at the time, and to members of the Community Council who went to the site to make enquiries has turned out to be blatantly untrue. It could be a error forgiven if it was rectified as soon as Mowi were notified but the fact that we notified you before the fish were in the cages, then the reasons given after become irrelevant suggests Mowi were negligent or blatantly misleading there is no other reason for the sequence of events that transpired.

We spoke with the Landlord and he is equally appalled at how Mowi has said one thing and then done the exact opposite and gone ahead and moved the cages and stocked them. He assures us he will take a different view when the tenancy comes up for renewal in 2029 which might seem a long way but would impact on the investment Mowi have made and ruined the relationship with the local community and to the visitors to the world renowned landmark that is Loch Ness and its iconic views.

We have voices suggesting positive action against the fish cages to garner world wide news coverage and whilst we don't sanction this and for the possible ecological damage escaped fish would have on the Loch and River Ness , consider the reputational damage it would do to Mowi. That is how much damage has been done by the actions of Mowi as the world emerges from a Global Pandemic.

We have seen that Highland Council has served an enforcement notice and would urge you in the strongest terms to comply rapidly and not draw this sorry saga out any further.

We have a full copy of all correspondence that we acted with good faith following normal procedure which shows everything we have stated as factual which we can send to you and the press if you wish.

Yours Sincerely  
Simon Pillatt  
Secretary  
Dores and Essich Community Council

