



EUROPEAN COMMISSION  
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR MARITIME AFFAIRS AND FISHERIES

The Director-General

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FRANCE

**Subject: Your letter of 6 May 2019**

Dear Mr. Le Manach,

I would like to thank you for your letter dated 6 May 2019 where you reiterate your concerns, expressed in your letter dated 1 April 2019, with regard to the use of pulse fishing by the Netherlands.

As stated in my reply of 15 April 2019, the European Commission is aware of the Dutch government's decision to extend the licenses granted under Article 14 of the Basic Regulation, which allows Member States to conduct pilot projects to facilitate the introduction of the landing obligation.

As you know, political agreement has been reached between the co-legislators on the new Technical Measures Regulation<sup>1</sup>, which should come into force shortly. The new Technical Measures regulation foresees that fishing with electric pulse shall be prohibited as of 1 July 2021. During the transitional period ending 30 June 2021 no more than 5% of the beam trawler fleet per Member State may use this gear under the specific conditions in the Technical Measures regulation.

The Commission is following this matter very closely and will remain in close dialogue with the relevant authorities.

Yours faithfully,

  
João AGUIAR MACHADO

<sup>1</sup> [www.europarl.europa.eu/doceo/document/TA-8-2019-0381\\_EN.pdf](http://www.europarl.europa.eu/doceo/document/TA-8-2019-0381_EN.pdf)