



Rt Hon Carwyn Jones AM
First Minister of Wales
Welsh Government
Cardiff Bay
CF99 1NA

Your ref:
Our ref: EJ/CW

14 June 2018

Dear First Minister,

It has come to my attention that following Commons Consideration of Lords Amendments to the European Union (Withdrawal) Bill, the UK Government has backed an amendment in lieu (number 3A) relating to publishing a draft Bill preserving EU environmental law.

The amendment would appear to apply to the whole of the UK and to fall within the legislative competence of the Assembly. Therefore it would appear to be subject to the Sewel Convention and to the legislative consent procedure set out in Standing Order 29. If so, we would face the unprecedented situation of considering legislative consent as a Bill moves rapidly between the Houses of Parliament during its final legislative stage.

If Assembly consent is required before the House of Lords next sit on Monday afternoon, this would require the Assembly to be summoned at your request under Standing Order 12.3 and the suspension of the Standing Orders relating to notice of motions.

At its meeting on Tuesday, Business Committee discussed the potential for Legislative Consent Memoranda during ping pong, and agreed that the Assembly would do everything necessary to facilitate scrutiny of these if they materialise.

Croesewir gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg neu Saesneg / We welcome correspondence in Welsh or English



Given the potentially very tight timescales and the possibility that the Assembly would need to meet outside its usual Plenary times, I would be grateful if you could confirm as soon as possible whether or not you are intending to lay an LCM in respect of the amendment referred to above, so that I can keep Assembly Members informed.

I am copying this letter to the Chairs of the Constitutional and Legislative Affairs, External Affairs and Additional Legislation, and Climate Change, Environment and Rural Affairs Committees, and to Business Committee Members.

Yours sincerely,

Elin Jones AM
Llywydd

cc: Mick Antoniw AM, Committee Chair, Constitutional and Legislative Affairs
Committee
David Rees AM, Committee Chair, External Affairs and Additional Legislation
Committee
Mike Hedges AM, Committee Chair, Climate Change, Environment and Rural
Affairs Committee
Business Committee Members