

SCHEDULE 3

SELECTION CRITERIA FOR SCREENING SCHEDULE 2 DEVELOPMENT

Location of development

2. The environmental sensitivity of geographical areas likely to be affected by development must be considered, having regard, in particular, to—

- (a) the existing land use;
- (b) the relative abundance, quality and regenerative capacity of natural resources in the area;
- (c) the absorption capacity of the natural environment, paying particular attention to the following areas—
 - (i) wetlands;
 - (ii) coastal zones;
 - (iii) mountain and forest areas;
 - (iv) nature reserves and parks;
 - (v) areas classified or protected under Member States' legislation; areas designated by Member States pursuant to Council Directive [79/409/EEC](#) on the conservation of wild birds⁽¹⁾ and Council Directive [92/43/EEC](#) on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora⁽²⁾;
 - (vi) areas in which the environmental quality standards laid down in Community legislation have already been exceeded;
 - (vii) densely populated areas;
 - (viii) landscapes of historical, cultural or archaeological significance.

(1) O.J. No.L103, 25.4.1979, p.1.

(2) O.J. No.L206, 22.7.1992, p.7.