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Subject: Final Reporting for the CHARM Project (EVK3-CT-2000-00023)

Dear Bo,

Thank you for sending me the final management report, including the 3rd periodic report, sixth management report, final TIP, copies of the agenda and minutes from project meetings and copies of publications for the CHARM project. The reports are clearly presented and complete.

I am very glad to read that at project end all of the 36 initially agreed deliverables have been achieved despite, for example, some of the delays experienced during the course of the project, the problems encountered due to the perhaps overly-detailed initial requirements for deliverable 33 and the slight modification in deliverable 31. Deliverable 36 (the User's Guide) is still in draft form and I would be grateful if you could send me a final version when it is published. I am also glad to read that a number of the results of the project have been integrated into the REBECCA and THRESHOLDS projects and am delighted to read that the project results are also actively being used by several of the national authorities in the Baltic Sea region.

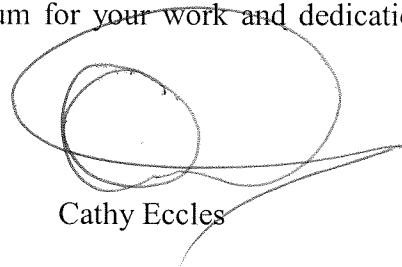
The project results are extremely interesting, in particular the functional relationships described between Secchi-depth and chlorophyll, annual mean nutrient levels and biomass and spring bloom indicator species and total nitrogen in winter. The water-quality indicators derived from the depth limits of Eelgrass and macro algal communities are also extremely interesting.

The dissemination of project results in WP7 has been extremely well addressed in the CHARM project. All three project workshops have been clearly very successful and the number of publications remains impressive with 28 international publications, 9 further submitted publications and 11 publications in preparation. There have also been 21 'other' publications, 14 poster presentations, 46 oral presentations and 6 theses. The two dialogue meetings with managers were an excellent initiative and instrumental in developing the CHARM user guide. I would, however, be grateful if the website could be updated as it does not, currently, reflect the positive outcome and results of the project.

It is clear that the CHARM project has been successful in contributing a wealth of knowledge of high relevance in WFD implementation and to the research and policy area as a whole. The project Consortium has clearly been strong and united.

On the basis of the above, I am pleased to inform you that the European Commission accepts the final reports and TIP for the project would like to take this opportunity of thanking you and the entire CHARM consortium for your work and dedication to this project. It has been a pleasure to work with you.

Very best regards,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, consisting of several overlapping loops and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Cathy Eccles

CC. : P De Rouck, RTD/I/5