

Excerpt from Swansea Newspaper Article

AN Assembly announcement that sand **dredging** in part of the Bristol Channel will end has been welcomed by a regional AM.

Environment Minister Jane Davidson has said there will be no further extension to the licence to dredge sand from the Nash Bank, off Porthcawl, once the present licence expires on February 4 2010.

The **dredging** was extended for seven years in February 2003, when permission was given for a further 5.4 million tonnes of sand to be extracted.

South Wales West AM Alun Cairns said beaches all along Swansea Bay and Gower had been affected by **dredging**.

He said: “There has been enormous environmental damage to our beaches, and everyone recognises the main cause is the **dredging** that has been permitted for many years in the Bristol Channel.

“It is important we now call a halt to **dredging** activities to try to preserve what remains of our beaches.

“It is important the Assembly Government sticks to this, especially as rising sea levels, storm surges and coastal erosion are serious issues we will have to deal with in the future.”