

Brennan, PaulM

From: Forestry Support Unit
Sent: Wednesday 25 August 2021 16:58
To: OBrien, MichaelG; Forestry Support Unit
Subject: RE: AIF 32 of 21 - Statement of Evidence

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Thank you Michael.

From: OBrien, MichaelG <MichaelG.OBrien@agriculture.gov.ie>
Sent: Wednesday 25 August 2021 16:49
To: Forestry Support Unit <FSU@agriculture.gov.ie>
Subject: Fwd: AIF 32 of 21 - Statement of Evidence

For the attention of Eilish Kehoe.

Regards,

Michael.

From: OBrien, MichaelG <MichaelG.OBrien@agriculture.gov.ie>
Date: 4 March 2021 at 12:24:36 GMT
To: Sheridan, Alan <Alan.Sheridan@agriculture.gov.ie>, Murphy, Therese <Therese.Murphy@agriculture.gov.ie>
Cc: Bucke, Ken <Ken.Bucke@agriculture.gov.ie>, Curran, Eugene <Eugene.Curran@agriculture.gov.ie>
Subject: AIF 32 of 21 - Statement of Evidence

Statement of evidence of Michael O'Brien, Forest Service, Blennerville, Tralee, Co. Kerry.

I hereby declare that this statement is true to the best of my knowledge and belief and that I make it knowing that if it is tendered in evidence, I will be liable to prosecution if I state in it anything which I know to be false or do not believe to be true.

I am a forestry inspector, with the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine. I visited the lands in the townland of Toormore, Kilcummin, Co. Kerry on the 24th of February, 2021.

I was in the area filed inspecting a woodland improvement form 1 for CN88280 when I can across a pollution incident as a result of the clearfell operation. I took the attached photos. According to Mr Dermot Fenton and Mr Gerard Moroney (Foresters from Green Belt Ltd) the site would have been clearfelled during the month of December 2020. The lands were felled under TFL00477520 with all timber being sold to GP Wood, Enniskeane, Co, Cork.

The Inland Fisheries Ireland, Environmental Officer, Karen Griffin has also been alerted to the pollution incident and work is ongoing in this regard.

Mr Gerard Moroney has stated to me that the notification to withdraw the tree felling licence TFL00477520 was not received and that they and the landowner had acted in good faith.

The number of trees felled was approximately 2200 stems per ha. Mr Gerard Moroney also confirmed that lands in question will be reforested at 2500 stems per ha in line with the replanting conditions of the felling licence TFL00477520.

I have read over the statement.

Michael O'Brien.

Michael O'Brien (MSIF)

District Inspector, Forest Service,

An Roinn Talmhaíochta, Bia agus Mara

Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine

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