



16 June 2023

Right to Know
requests@righttoknow.ie

Re: AIE request 23 374

Dear Right to Know,

I refer to the request you made under the European Communities (Access to Information on the Environment) Regulations 2007 to 2018 (S.I. No. 133 of 2007, S.I. No. 662 of 2011, S.I. 615 of 2014 and S.I. No. 309 of 2018) (hereafter referred to as the AIE Regulations) for access to information held by the Department of Agriculture, Food, and the Marine relating to the provision of, by email, copies of any Coillte Board minutes as submitted by Coillte to DAFM for the years 2020 to 2023 YTD.

Summary of Decision

I made a decision on your request on 07 June 2023. Having considered your request, my decision is to refuse you access to the information sought under Article 7(5) of European Communities (Access to Information on the Environment) Regulations 2007 to 2018 as the documentation you requested are not held by DAFM. Coillte is a private limited company established under the Forestry Act 1988 and is operationally independent from the Minister and Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine. The Forestry Act 1988 sets out the governance of Coillte and the role of the Board. Minutes of Coillte Board meetings are not submitted by Coillte to the Department.

This AIE has been completed in accordance with the AIE Regulations.

Right of review

Under Article 11 of the AIE Regulations you have a right to request an internal review of this decision. An internal review involves a complete reconsideration of the matter by a member of the staff of the Department of Agriculture, Food, and The Marine, unconnected with the original decision, of the same or higher rank than the original decision-maker, who may affirm, vary or annul the original decision.

If you wish to request an internal review, you can do so by emailing freedomofinformation@agriculture.gov.ie referring to this decision, quoting the AIE reference number. This request must be made within one month of the date of receipt of this decision. The decision of an internal review will be communicated to you within one month of receipt of your request for an internal review.

Yours sincerely,

Brendan Cruise
AIE Unit,
Forestry Division,
Department of Agriculture, Food & the Marine,
Johnstown Castle Estate,
Co. Wexford.