



Ms Ann Walshe  
[ann@annwalshe.co.uk](mailto:ann@annwalshe.co.uk)

07/02/2024

**Re: AIE request ref 005/2024**

Dear Ms Walshe,

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. No. 615 of 2014 and S.I. No. 309 of 2018) (hereafter referred to as the AIE Regulations) for access to information held by the Forestry Appeals Committee.

**Summary of Decision**

Following a search of material held by the Forestry Appeal Committee, I have not identified any records which fall within the scope of this request. I searched through all material held by the FAC using 'Visual Impact Assessment' and 'VIA'.

I therefore must refuse your request.

The information requested is as follows:

For the period commencing **1 January 2023 to 31 December 2023 (both dates inclusive)**, please provide, by email, the following information:

1. Copies of all Visual Impact Assessments (VIA's) submitted to the Forestry Appeal Committee ('FAC) in relation to any appeal relating to an afforestation application;
2. Copy of the FAC decision in all cases where a VIA has been submitted;
3. Copy of all correspondence in connection with any VIA, being correspondence either in whole or in part referring to a VIA, where a VIA has been submitted to the FAC as part of an afforestation appeal.



## Schedule of records

I have attached a schedule with this letter. This lists the requests you have made and the decision I have made on each.

## 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 this Department, 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 writing to Ruth Kinehan, AIE Officer, 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.

Please contact me at 057 8667167 or [forestry@agriappeals.gov.ie](mailto:forestry@agriappeals.gov.ie) if I can assist you in any matter relating to your request.

Yours sincerely,

**Vanessa Healy Quinn**  
Administration for the Forestry Appeals Committee  
Kilminchy Court, Portlaoise. Co. Laois R32 DTW5  
Tel: 057 8667167



**Access to Information on the Environment (AIE) Schedule of Records - Summary of Decision Making**  
**AIE Request Reference 005/2024**

Record No.	Brief description of record	Decision - Grant/Part Grant/Refuse	Basis for refusal - Article of Regulation	Public Interest	Emissions - where information is refused under Article 8 and/or 9(1)(c)
1	Copies of all Visual Impact Assessments (VIA's) submitted to the Forestry Appeal Committee (FAC) in relation to any appeal relating to an afforestation application	Refuse	Article 4	N/A	N/A
2	Copy of the FAC decision in all cases where a VIA has been submitted	Refuse	Article 4	N/A	N/A
3	Copy of all correspondence in connection with any VIA, being correspondence either in whole or in part referring to a VIA, where a VIA has been submitted to the FAC as part of an afforestation appeal.	Refuse	Article 4	N/A	N/A