



18 October 2024

Mr Neil Foulkes

neilfoulkes62@gmail.com

Re: AAIE request 24 124 - OCE-148902-X5H4K0

AAIE requests received from you to date: 192

Dear Mr Foulkes,

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 this the Department of Agriculture, Food, and the Marine (DAFM).

Your AIE Request:

I wish to request under the Access to Information on the Environment Regulations, in electronic format:

1a) Information which informed the change to the Environmental Requirements for Afforestation contained in Circular 2 of 2024.

1b) Information on the scientific papers or references which substantiate the validity of the changes.

Your Internal Review Request:

OECl advised DAFM to conduct a second Internal Review.

Summary of Decision

I have decided on your Internal Review request on 18 October 2024. My decision is to vary the decision of 16 April 2024. I have identified ten (10) additional records that relate to your request.

Schedule of Records

Please see schedule of records for information on records released. This lists the records that I consider relevant to your request. It provides a brief description of each record and the decision I have made on each record. Where I have decided to partially refuse access to a record, it specifies the Article of the AIE Regulations under which this refusal has been made.

Search Conducted

Following the assignment of this AIE request to me the following search was undertaken.



I contacted Mr K. Collins who may hold information in relation to your request. Mr Collins searched his email account and identified 10 records relevant to your request. The records were downloaded and formatted; no redactions needed.

Designated Decision-Maker

With reference to Article 11(2), the decision-maker who has reviewed this decision is a person unconnected with the original decision whose rank is the same as, or higher than, that of the original decision.

Right of Appeal

In accordance with Article 12(3) of the AIE Regulations, you may appeal this decision to the Commissioner for Environmental Information. If you wish to appeal, you must do so, within one month of receipt of this notification, to:

The Office of the Commissioner for Environmental Information,
6 Earlsfort Terrace,
Dublin 2, D02 W773.
Phone: +353-1-639 5689
Email: info@ocei.ie

It is also possible to appeal online, see the website of the Commissioner for further details
<https://www.ocei.ie/>

The fee for such an appeal is €50 or €15 if you are the holder of a medical card or the dependent of the holder of a medical card.

Yours sincerely,

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