

Right to Know

Email: requests@righttoknow.ie

16 January 2025

Re: AIE Request 12-2024

Dear Sirs,

I refer to your AIE request dated 17 December 2024 requesting the following records under AIE Regulations and to my acknowledgement letter dated 20 December 2024.

Under the AIE Regs to request any correspondence / records related to peat extraction on the following sites:

- Site WH1 – Derrycrave, Clonsura, Carlanstown, Doon, Camagh and Monktown Co. Westmeath*
- Site WH2 – Shrubbywood, Ballinaloe, Mayne and Coole Co. Westmeath*
- Site WH3 – Derrydooan Lower, Ballygarveybeg, Killinagh, Ballygarvey, Carrigagh, Curristeen and Bardanstown, Co. Westmeath*
- Site WH4 – Ballymaglavy, Co. Westmeath*
- Site WH5 – Newdown and Kerinstown Co. Westmeath*
- Site WH6 – Baltrasna, Co. Westmeath.*
- Site WH7 - Milltownpass Bog, Pass of Kilbride, Co. Westmeath.*
- Site WH7 - Milltownpass Bog, Pass of Kilbride, Co. Westmeath.*
- Site WH8 – Blyry Lower and Tullycross, Co. Westmeath*

Please include any internal CoCo records, any correspondence with the EPA and any correspondence with landowners and/or peat extraction contractors. Please restrict this AIE request to the years 2023-2024.

Summary of Decision

I have now decided on your request on 16 January 2025, as follows –

- Please see Schedule of Information attached,
- See attached communications between Westmeath County Council and Environmental Protection Agency,
- There was no peatland enforcement activity by Westmeath County Council Planning Department in 2023 or 2024.

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 staff of Westmeath County Council, unconnected with the original decision, of 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 Pat Murtagh, AIE Appeals 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 044-32083 or cbyrne@wetmeathcoco.ie to assist you in any matter relating to your request.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Caroline Byrne". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath the name.

Caroline Byrne
FOI/AIE Officer,
Corporate Services