



Save Leitrim Group
saveleitrim@gmail.com

Re: AIE request 24 880

AIE requests received from you to date in 2024: 29

Dear Save Leitrim,

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

We wish to receive under the AIE Regulations, in electronic format;

With reference to recommendations 17, 18 and 19 of the Project Woodland Regulatory Review (June 2022) (see below)

Information related to the development of standard emergency response procedures.

To include, but not restricted to, any consultations, actual or proposed, with

a) the forestry sector

b) other key stakeholders

c) prescribed bodies

To clarify, this could include any information related to consideration or discussion on the introduction of such procedures and changes to Regulation.

There is a very strong public interest case to be made for this information.

Summary of Decision

I have decided on your AIE request on 29th January 2024. My decision is to refuse your request.

The basis for my decision is that there are no records received relevant to your request.

Where information has been refused or partially refused, the following article(s) of SI 133/2007 apply: 7(5) Where a request is made to a public authority and the information requested is not held by or for the authority concerned, that authority shall inform the applicant as soon as possible that the information is not held by or for it.



Fees

In this instance the Department will not be applying a fee for this AIE because search, retrieval and formatting took less than one hour so no fee applies.

Search Conducted

Following the assignment of this AIE request to me I undertook the following searches:

- Searching emails were sent to Linda Morris and Janet Farrell (Forest Policy) for any records or files or documents they held relevant to this AIE. No records were received from either person.
- Searching emails were also sent to Seamus Dunne (Head of Forestry Inspectorate) for any records, files or documents he held in respect of this AIE, no records were received.
- Keywords to be used in the searches were "Project Woodland", "Review", "June 2022" and "Emergency response".

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 emailing FOI Unit at 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,

Oonagh O'Byrne

AIE Unit

Forestry Division

Department of Agriculture, Food & the Marine

Johnstown Castle Estate

County Wexford