

**Maurus, Sonja**

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**From:** Maurus, Sonja  
**Sent:** Tuesday 4 November 2025 14:08  
**To:** Morris, Linda; Farrell, Janet; Windle, Robert; Collins, Kevin; Dowling, Conor; Clune, Anne  
**Cc:** O'Neill, Marie; Murphy, Mandy  
**Subject:** Coillte Western Peatlands project  
**Attachments:** WWP - project proposal request 031125.docx

Hi all,

Please be informed that ASG Paul Savage has recently given approval in principle to Coillte that DAFM will fund Coillte's Western Peatlands Project. However, for Coillte to get full approval, we require a detailed project proposal (see my email below to Coillte) which we will then need to assess before funding approval can be issued. Approval will probably be in the form of a detailed grant funding letter, including all terms & conditions that we think are required and necessary.

I had a quick chat with Robbie about this earlier and Robbie has suggested that we could take this opportunity to develop a DAFM Code of Good Practise for Conversion from Forests to Restored Peatlands and ask Coillte to contribute to this through information and data from their pilot project. This could be part of the T&Cs in the approval.

The reason why I am sending this email to you is that we will require to set up an assessment team following receipt of the proposal and I would like to invite you to be part of this, provided you have availability.

Could you confirm your availability to me by the end of this week please?

Also, I am happy to collect any initial thoughts and observations you might have on T&Cs that will be required in our approval letter.

If you have any questions about this, please don't hesitate to ask.

Regards,

*Sonja*

**From:** Maurus, Sonja  
**Sent:** Tuesday 4 November 2025 13:52  
**To:** 'Liam Malone' <Liam.Malone@coillte.ie>  
**Cc:** Mooney, Robert <Robert.Mooney@agriculture.gov.ie>; O'Neill, Marie <Marie.O'Neill@agriculture.gov.ie>  
**Subject:** RE: Western Peatlands project

Hi Liam,

Further to our phone conversation this morning and following up on the recent conversation between DAFM Assistant Secretary General Paul Savage and Coillte CEO Imelda Hurley, I am now requesting for Coillte to submit a detailed project proposal for the redesign of ca. 1,000ha of the Wild Western Peatlands. Following receipt of the detailed proposal, this Department will carry out an assessment of the proposal and then issue its decision.

I have attached an outline of the required elements that should be covered in this project proposal document please.

If you require any further information in relation to the attached outline, please do not hesitate to contact me.

I would appreciate if you could provide an indicative timeline by when you expect that the project proposal can be submitted to DAFM please.

Best regards,

Sonja

*Sonja Maurus*

*Forestry Division – Coillte Corporate Governance and Coordination*

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**An Roinn Talmhaíochta, Bia agus Mara**

*Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine*

**Eastát Chaisleán Bhaile Sheáin, Co. Loch Garman, Y35 PN52**

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**From:** Maurus, Sonja

**Sent:** Thursday 10 July 2025 11:08

**To:** 'Liam Malone' <[Liam.Malone@coillte.ie](mailto:Liam.Malone@coillte.ie)>

**Cc:** Aileen O'Sullivan <[Aileen.OSullivan@coillte.ie](mailto:Aileen.OSullivan@coillte.ie)>; Dermot Tiernan <[Dermot.Tiernan@coillte.ie](mailto:Dermot.Tiernan@coillte.ie)>

**Subject:** RE: Western Peatlands project

Hi Liam,

Further to our recent meeting and as discussed, would you already be able to give me an indication by when the updated project concept note can be provided to the Department please?

In this context I would like to remind you that there are still approx. €20,000 available as part of the funding approved for the project preparatory phase in October '24 that can be claimed by Coillte any time.

Best regards,

*Sonja*

*Sonja Maurus*

*Forestry Division – Coillte Corporate Governance and Coordination*

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**From:** Liam Malone <[Liam.Malone@coillte.ie](mailto:Liam.Malone@coillte.ie)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday 27 May 2025 18:14  
**To:** Maurus, Sonja <[Sonja.Maurus@agriculture.gov.ie](mailto:Sonja.Maurus@agriculture.gov.ie)>  
**Cc:** Aileen O'Sullivan <[Aileen.OSullivan@coillte.ie](mailto:Aileen.OSullivan@coillte.ie)>; Dermot Tiernan <[Dermot.Tiernan@coillte.ie](mailto:Dermot.Tiernan@coillte.ie)>  
**Subject:** Western Peatlands project

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Dear Sonja,

As Director of ESG in Coillte Forest, and following recent organisational changes in Coillte, I now have Director-level responsibility for the delivery of the DAFM-funded Western Peatlands project. Given this, and in light of the granting of our planning application for the Derryclare component last week, I would like to meet with you as soon as possible (virtually should suffice) to discuss a number of topics, including progress in the project, future plans, funding etc.

Can you please advise of your availability for a c.60-minute discussion over the coming fortnight?

Thanks & Regards,  
Liam

Liam Malone

**Environmental Social Governance Director | Coillte Forest | Coillte**  
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