Thank you for your recent communication.

The Department welcomes the opportunity to participate in the Public consultation on the review of the European Communities (Access to Information on the Environment) Regulations 2007-2018. Responses are set out below in blue text.

Consultation Questions / Responses

- **Q1** What, in your opinion, are the positive benefits of the AIE Regulations? The Department recognises the importance of the AIE regulations and other provisions which facilitate the freedom of access to records, and the direct benefit of transparent and accountable services to and on behalf of the public is acknowledged.
- Q2 Should any specific part of the Regulations be amended? If yes, please provide details of the suggested amendment and why you consider such an amendment to be necessary. Please note you must include the article of the AIE Regulations to which you are referring i.e.:

Article 3 - Interpretation

Article 4 - Scope

Article 5 - A public authority shall-

Article 6 - Request for environmental information

Article 7 - Action on a request

Article 8 - Grounds that, subject to article 10, mandate a refusal

Article 9 - Discretionary grounds for refusal of information

Article 10 - Incidental provisions relation to refusal of information

Article 11 - Internal review of refusal

Article 12 - Appeal to Commissioner for Environmental Information

Article 13 - Appeal to high court on a point of Law

Article 14 - Guidelines

Article 15 - Fees

N/A

Q3 Any other comments on the existing AIE Regulations and their implementation of the AIE Directive 2003/4/EC?

The second line is fully compliant with current AIE Regulations and will continue to engage with the Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications in this regard.

Regards,



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Tá an fhaisnéis atá sa ríomhphost seo (agus in aon cheangaltáin) faoi rún agus is don fhaighteoir/do na faighteoirí beartaithe é agus é/iad sin amháin. Mura tusa an faighteoir beartaithe, níor cheart duit an teachtaireacht seo ná aon chuid di a úsáid, a nochtadh, a chóipeáil, a dháileadh ná a choinneáil. Sa chás gur trí earráid a fuair tú an ríomhphost seo, tabhair fógra dom láithreach faoi sin agus scrios gach cóip den ríomhphost seo ó do ríomhchóra(i)s. Tabhair faoi deara go bhféadfaidh an ríomhphost seo agus aon fhreagra air bheith faoi réir iarraidh ar a eisiúint de bhun an Achta um Shaoráil Faisnéise

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