

Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications

2021 Q1, Q2 & Q3 AIE Disclosure Log of non-personal Access to Information on the Environment Requests

AIE No.	Requester	Date and Details of Request Received	Decision	Date Released
AIE202133	Client	<p>09/08/2021</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. All correspondence between the Geological Survey Ireland (GSI) and the staff of, including the members of the Executive of Roscommon County Council and/or the elected members of Roscommon County Council in the period from 1 January 2021, to the date of this request, concerning flooding and/or proposed flood relief works at Lough Funshinagh, County Roscommon. 2. All internal correspondence in the period 1 January 2021, to the date of this request, concerning flooding and/or proposed flood relief works at Lough Funshinagh, County Roscommon. 3. All correspondence between the Geological Survey Ireland (GSI) and the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform, including the Minister of State Patrick O' Donovan T.D., and his office, in the period 1 January 2021, to the date of this request concerning flooding and/or proposed flood relief works at Lough Funshinagh, County Roscommon. 4. All correspondence between the Geological Survey Ireland (GSI) and the Office of Public Works (OPW), in the period 1 January 2021, to the date of this request, concerning flooding and/or proposed flood relief works at Lough Funshinagh, County Roscommon. 5. All correspondence between the Geological Survey Ireland (GSI) and the National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS), in the period 1 January 2021, to the date of this request, concerning flooding and/or proposed flood relief works at Lough Funshinagh, County Roscommon. <p>Please note that correspondence includes all electronic communications on electronic devices</p>	Part-Granted	08/09/2021

		under the control of officials and management of the Geological Survey Ireland (GSI) including text messages and messages protected by encryption services such as WhatsApp.		
AIE202132	Journalist	01/09/2021 Copies of any briefings, submissions, memos, or other such overview/review/discussion documents prepared for the Minister and/or the Secretary General with regard to the IPCC report 2021.C43.	Refused	30/09/2021
AIE202131	Member of the Public	31/08/2021 All records held by DECC, which clearly show that Seán Power T.D. (Fianna Fáil), complied with the requirements of Regulation 31 of the European Communities (Natural Habitats) Regulations 1997 (S.I. No. 94 of 1997), when signing the following inland fisheries bye-laws as Minister of State at the Department for Communications, Energy and Natural Resources in 2008. Bye-Laws 852, 850, 847, 848, 301, 845, 851, 849, 846 of 2008.	Refused	30/09/2021
AIE202130	Member of the Public	31/08/2021 All records held by DECC, which clearly show that Eamon Ryan T.D. (Green Party), complied with the requirements of Regulation 31 of the European Communities (Natural Habitats) Regulations 1997 (S.I. No. 94 of 1997), when signing the following inland fisheries bye-laws as Minister for Communications, Energy and Natural Resources in 2008. Bye-Laws 299, 844, 300, 836, 295, 841, 842, 835, 839, 843, 837, 296, 834, 833 & 298 of 2008.	Refused	30/09/2021

AIE202129	Journalist	04/08/2021 Copies of all records held in the email accounts of the Minister (Mr Ryan T.D.) and/or the Department Secretary General referring or relating to the following policy statement: https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/f3774-policy-statement-on-the-importation-of-fracked-gas/ . This request to cover the period 1 February 2021 to date of receipt of the request. (For records relating to the email account of the Secretary General)	Part-Granted	03/09/2021
AIE202128	Journalist	04/08/2021 Copies of all records held in the email accounts of the Minister (Mr Ryan T.D.) and/or the Department Secretary General referring or relating to the following policy statement: https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/f3774-policy-statement-on-the-importation-of-fracked-gas/ . This request to cover the period 1 February 2021 to date of receipt of the request. (For records relating to the email account of the Minister)	Part-Granted	03/09/2021
AIE202127	Journalist	16/08/2021 Any such records held in Minister Ryan's email account; any such records held in the Secretary General's email account; any high-level documents e.g., briefings, submissions, memos, reports, or other such overview/discussion documents relating to the issue.	Part-Granted	28/09/2021
AIE202126	Business/Interest Group	27/07/2021 A list of all documents, correspondence, meeting minutes, pieces of paper, regarding any information received or sent between the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage and the Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications, regarding the new government policy on fracked gas imports (https://assets.gov.ie/135271/3226a65b-c49c-458e-9ab9-83b2d1196af2.pdf).	Part-Granted	25/08/2021

AIE202125	Journalist	19/07/2021 Copies of all records held referring or relating to the insertion of certain amendments to the Climate Bill around setting of targets as per the following article: https://greennews.ie/recent-amendments-gutted-climate-bill/	Part-Granted Deemed Refused	20/08/2021
AIE202124	Member of the Oireachtas	12/07/2021 All records, including any documents or attachments, and all minutes of meetings held by the Department, including the Minister himself, in relation to the LNG policy statement published on May 18 2021. The search should be limited to the period from June 1 2020 to May 25 2021.	Part-Granted Deemed Refused	12/08/2021
AIE202123	Member of the Public	05 July 2021 Copies of all records held by the Inland Fisheries Division within the Department regarding the formulation and drafting of the proposed "Western Lakes Designation" Bye-Law which affects multiple SAC's.	Refused	03/08/2021
AIE202122	Member of the Public	24 June 2021 On July 20th 2006 the then Minister of State at the Department of Communications, Marine and Natural Resources, John Browne TD, signed the Conservation and Prohibition on Sale of Coarse Fish Bye-law No. 806, 2006. This bye-law covers all SACs within the Irish state including the Lough Corrib SAC. On August 3rd 2006 the aforementioned Minister of State signed the Conservation of Pike Bye-law No. 809, 2006. This bye-law also covers all SACs within the Irish state including the Lough Corrib SAC. 1. Were the two aforementioned bye-laws adopted pursuant to a plan? 1.1. If so, please provide a copy of the plan. 2. If the answer to question 1 is yes, was that plan subjected to an Environmental Impact Statement or Appropriate Assessment Screening?	Part-Granted	23/07/2021

		<p>2.1. If so, please provide a copy of the assessment, the report on which it was based, all supporting scientific material, and all public submissions received.</p> <p>3. Did the bye-laws involve the carrying out of a project for the purposes of Article 6 of the Habitats Directive?</p> <p>3.1. If so please provide details of the scope of the project.</p> <p>4. If the answer to question 3 is yes, was the project subjected to Appropriate Assessment Screening, and under what statutory provision?</p> <p>4.1. If so, please provide a copy of the screening report, the decision in relation to screening, and the reasons for the decision.</p> <p>5. Did the Minister of State consider whether the bye-laws would cause deterioration of natural habitats within Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) and in particular Lough Corrib SAC to which they apply?</p> <p>5.1. If so, please provide a copy of all documents relating to that consideration.</p> <p>6. In particular, did the Minister of State consider whether the bye-laws, by protecting non-native pike and non-native coarse fish (as classified under the EU Water Framework Directive) and increasing their numbers, would cause deterioration of the habitats for Atlantic salmon and lamprey, either by reduction of available food sources, direct predation, or otherwise?</p> <p>6.1. If so, please provide a copy of all documents relating to that consideration.</p> <p>7. If the answer to question 6 is yes, what measures did the Minister of State take to prevent that deterioration?</p> <p>7.1. Please provide a copy of those measures and all documents relating to them.</p> <p>Clarification received on 28/06/2021</p> <p>(1) I request copies of all documents held on record with the Department, which clearly show</p>		
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		<p>how and why the two named fisheries bye-laws were formulated.</p> <p>(2) I request copies of all documents held on record with the Department, which clearly show that the then Minister of State and Department Officials, considered the potential impact of protecting non-native pike and non-native coarse fish (as classified under the EU Water Framework) in SAC lakes such as Lough Corrib and rivers.</p> <p>(3) Documents held on record by the Department that indicate compliance with Regulations 31 of European Communities Natural Habitats Regulations 1997 (SI 94 /97) (Habitats Directive).</p>		
AIE202121	Journalist	<p>28 May 2021</p> <p>Copies of all records held in the email accounts of the Minister Ryan T.D. and/or the department Secretary General referring or relating to the following policy statement: https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/f3774-policy-statement-on-the-importation-of-fracked-gas/</p> <p>This request to cover the period 1 February 2021 to date of receipt of the request. (For records relating to the email accounts of the Secretary General)</p>		
AIE202120	Journalist	<p>28 May 2021</p> <p>Copies of all records held in the email accounts of the Minister (Mr Ryan T.D.) and/or the department secretary general referring or relating to the following policy statement: https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/f3774-policy-statement-on-the-importation-of-fracked-gas/</p> <p>This request to cover the period 1 February 2021 to date of receipt of the request. (For records relating to the email accounts of Minister Ryan T.D.)</p>		

AIE202119	Business/ Interest Group	26 May 2021 A copy of your draft submission to the review of the EU-Pollutant Release and Transfer Register, currently ongoing up to 31 April 2021 https://ec.europa.eu/environment/industry/stationary/e-prtr/evaluation.html	Refused	10 June 2021
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AIE202118	Member of the Public	<p>20 May 2021</p> <p>I wish to obtain copies of all documents including appropriate assessment screenings, which clearly show that the then Minister complied with Regulation 31 of the European Communities (Natural Habitats) Regulations 1997 (S.I. No. 94 of 1997).</p>	Refused	16 June 2021
AIE202117	Business/ Interest Group	<p>11 May 2021</p> <p>Copies of the submissions received in response to the consultation on the review of the AIE Regulations.</p>	Granted	04 June 2021
AIE202116	Business/ Interest Group	<p>10 May 2021</p> <p>We request records from 01 March 2020 through 7 May 2021 on:</p> <p>Any records pertaining to ammonia emissions in the preparation of the National Clean Air Strategy, including in emails and/or minutes of meetings, inter-departmental memos, or any other records which may be relevant.</p> <p>Any correspondence with any agricultural or farming organisation, representative or lobbying body.</p> <p>Any correspondence, including minutes of meetings or any records thereof, with any representative of the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine.</p> <p>Clarification received on 24/05/2021</p> <p>This should be interpreted as being limited to correspondence, including minutes of meetings or any records thereof, with any representative of the Department of Agriculture, Food and Marine, relating to the National Clean Air Strategy or any aspect of the preparation or consideration of the Strategy.</p>	Refused	08 June 2021

AIE202115	Business/ Interest Group	<p>10 May 2021</p> <p>We request records from 01 March 2020 through 7 May 2021 on:</p> <p>Any records pertaining to public participation or public consultation in the preparation of the National Clean Air Strategy, including in emails and/or minutes of meetings, inter-departmental memos, or any other records which may be relevant. This should include any records relating to compliance with the Aarhus Convention and incorporation of public consultation in the National Clean Air Strategy. Please also provide records of all correspondence with civil society organisations on the topic of public participation and consultation on the National Clean Air Strategy.</p>	Refused	08 June 2021
AIE202114	Business/ Interest Group	<p>10 May 2021</p> <p>We request records from 01 March 2020 through 7 May 2021 on:</p> <p>Any records of engagement with the offices of the Taoiseach and/or the Tánaiste in relation to the preparation of the National Clean Air Strategy, including emails and/or minutes of meetings, inter-departmental memos, or any other records which may be relevant.</p>	Refused	08 June 2021
AIE202113	Business/ Interest Group	<p>29 April 2021</p> <p>We request records from 1 September 2020 through 29 April 2021 on:</p> <p>All records and information relating to the development of a national Clean Air Strategy, including (but not necessarily limited to) internal memos, correspondence (both internal and external), Departmental Guidelines, and all other records with any bearing on the development of the National Clean Air Strategy.</p>	Withdrawn	10 May 2021

AIE202112	Journalist	<p>27 April 2021</p> <p>Please provide records relating to the Deposit and Return Scheme (DRS) and consultation, from 1 October 2020 to date; and, please provide any information on whether the process to introduce DRS will be expedited.</p> <p>For ease of reference, the Deposit and Return Scheme (DRS) to which I refer is that which was subject to a consultation in October/November 2020. See:</p> <p>https://www.gov.ie/en/press-release/f6c86-submissions-invited-on-the-design-of-irelands-deposit-return-scheme-drs/</p>	Part-Granted	25 May 2021
AIE202111	Business/ Interest Group	<p>19 April 2021</p> <p>All records created between 1st January 2005 and 31st December 2013 relating to the designation as Natura 2000 sites 'sandbanks slightly covered by seawater all the time', EU Annexe 1 Habitat Type (1110), in Ireland. This should include all inter-departmental and all intra-departmental communications and communications with all other organisations, associations or agencies and with the European Commission.</p>	Withdrawn	20 April 2021
AIE202110	Business/ Interest Group	<p>6 April 2021</p> <p>A list of all advice, documents, correspondence, meeting minutes, pieces of paper, and all information known to you that in any way, and all ways relates to, the intention of New Fortress Energy and/or Shannon LNG to pursue its plans for and/or to re-apply for a terminal on the Shannon Estuary.</p>	Part-Granted	04 May 2021

AIE20219	Business/ Interest Group	1 April 2021 A list of all advice, documents, correspondence, meeting minutes, pieces of paper, and all information known to you that in any way, and all ways relates to, the impact assessment being carried out on petroleum licensing by the Department of Economy in Northern Ireland, including, but not limited to, current policies and transboundary issues from a Southern perspective, referred to and confirmed by Lorraine Fleming of the Department for the Economy of Northern Ireland, in the attached communication dated 1st April, 2021 and the contents thereof.	Part- Granted	30 April 2021
AIE20218	Member of the Public	1 April 2021 I would like to obtain reports about CO2 emissions regarding Energy in Ireland in the year 2020.	Withdrawn	9 April 2021
AIE20217	Journalist	25 March 2021 All documentation (including but not limited to studies, reports, minutes of meetings and correspondence) from January 2016, to present, referring to water pollution arising from or related to use of antibiotics by free-range egg producers / rearer's in Ireland. If it is not possible to isolate information in relation to free-range egg producers / rearer's, please provide the documentation requested in relation to all egg producers / rearer's in Ireland. If this in turn is not possible, please provide the documentation requested in relation to all poultry farms in Ireland.	Withdrawn	29 March 2021

AIE20216	Member of the Public	<p>15 March 2021</p> <p>Copies of all correspondence/documentation/pieces of paper generated, and all information known by you, that in any and all ways relate to ... your decision to review the Access to Information on the Environment (AIE) Regulations 2007-2018, ... to the above address, including but not limited to, ... all recommendations and communications to and from the ACCC - Aarhus Convention Compliance Committee, and any and all recommendations and communications to and from any and all of the other Governing Structure Emanations of the UNECE Aarhus Convention.</p>	Granted	25 March 2021
AIE20215	Member of the Public	<p>15 March 2021</p> <p>A list of all correspondence/documentation/pieces of paper generated, and all information known by you, that in any and all ways relate to ... your decision to review the Access to Information on the Environment (AIE) Regulations 2007-2018, ... to the above address, including but not limited to, ... all recommendations and communications to and from the ACCC - Aarhus Convention Compliance Committee, and, any and all recommendations and communications to and from any and all of the other Governing Structure Emanations of the UNECE Aarhus Convention.</p>	Refused	25 March 2021
AIE20214	Journalist	<p>17 February 2021</p> <p>Copies of all correspondence between the Department and the Office of the Commissioner for Environmental Information, with regard to a complaint made to the Aarhus Convention Compliance Committee relating to delays in processing of requests/cases involving the AIE Regulations. This request to cover the period 1 Jan 2018 to date of receipt of the request.</p> <p>Copies of any briefings/submissions/memos or other such review/overview documents prepared for either the Minister or the Secretary General with regard to the findings of the ACCC on this complaint. This part of the request to cover the period 1 Sept 2020 to date of receipt of the request.</p>	Part-Granted	30 March 2021

AIE20213	Member of the Public	01 February 2021 A copy of the Appropriate Assessment Screening conducted for the 'Wild Salmon and Sea Trout Tagging Scheme (Amendment) Regulations 2020' as required under Article 6(3) of the EU Habitats Directive regarding the Lough Corrib SAC (site code 000297).	Refused	24 February 2021
AIE20212	Member of the Public	15 January 2021 A copy of email from member of the (Waste Action Plan) Advisory Group.	Withdrawn	26 January 2021
AIE20211	Member of the Public	11 January 2021 Details of how it was determined to give consent of issuing prospecting licences (trenching and drilling) to explore for gold in Inishowen, County Donegal that is presently proceeding. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What was the methodology used for screening for appropriate assessment especially since in this instance the presence and proximity of a Natura 2000 site? • What consultations were made to the competent authorities such as the National Parks and Wildlife Service regarding issuing licences and what was the rationale for making such a decision? • What information was required from the proposer(s) of explorative activity and was there any further information required from the proposer regarding their activity? • All assurances from the proposer that any activity would not have a detrimental effect on bog habitats? 	Part-Granted	05 March 2021