

Northern Ireland Environment Agency
Regulation and Enforcement Division



Department of
**Agriculture, Environment
and Rural Affairs**

An Roinn

**Talmhaíochta, Comhshaoil
agus Gnóthaí Tuaithe**

Department of

**Fairmin, Environment
an' Kintra Matthers**

www.daera-ni.gov.uk

Reference Number: **DAERA/26-258**

[Redacted] [\[Redacted\]@gmail.com](mailto:[Redacted]@gmail.com)

Waste Permitting Team
Northern Ireland Environment Agency
17 Antrim Road
Tonagh
Co. Antrim
BT28 3AL

Email: EMFG.InformationRequests@daera-ni.gov.uk

23 April 2026

Dear [Redacted]

Environmental Information Regulations 2004

With regard to your request for information received by the Department on 13th April 2026 which sought the following information:

Re: Annual Landfill Gas Management Returns — Volumes Extracted, Flared and Utilised at Permitted Landfill Sites in Northern Ireland

I am writing to request information under the Environmental Information Regulations 2004 (EIR). The information requested relates to landfill gas (LFG) generation, flaring and utilisation at regulated landfill sites in Northern Ireland and constitutes environmental information for the purposes of the EIR. Alternatively, if NIEA considers any part of this request to fall outside the EIR, please process it under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Background

Operators of permitted landfill sites in Northern Ireland are typically required, under conditions attached to their Pollution Prevention and Control (PPC) permits or waste

If you are deaf or have a hearing difficulty you can contact the Department via the Next Generation Text Relay Service by dialling 18001 + telephone number.

INVESTORS IN PEOPLE
We invest in people Standard

management licences, to submit periodic returns to NIEA covering landfill gas management. These returns commonly include data on: the volume of landfill gas extracted from the site (in m³ or Nm³), the volume flared (destroyed without energy recovery), and the volume utilised for electricity generation or other energy purposes. The submission frequency varies by permit but is commonly annual or quarterly. This periodic reporting provides the most direct regulatory evidence of which sites are actively managing landfill gas, what volumes are being generated, and whether that gas is being beneficially utilised or destroyed by flaring.

Information Requested

I request the following information held by NIEA in relation to landfill gas management returns submitted by permitted landfill operators in Northern Ireland:

1. For each regulated landfill site in Northern Ireland for which NIEA holds annual or periodic landfill gas management returns or reports submitted by operators under PPC permit or licence conditions, please provide (for the most recent available reporting year, and where readily available, the preceding two years):

- Site name and site address (or grid reference)*
- Name of the permit or licence holder (operator)*
- Permit or licence reference number*
- Reporting period covered (year or quarters)*
- Total volume of landfill gas extracted during the period (m³ or Nm³)*
- Volume of landfill gas flared (destroyed without energy recovery) during the period*
- Volume of landfill gas utilised for electricity generation or other energy purposes during the period*
- Whether the operator has reported any change in LFG utilisation status during the period (e.g. cessation of generation, transition from generation to flaring only, or vice versa)*

2. A list of any landfill sites in Northern Ireland for which NIEA holds records indicating that landfill gas is being extracted but for which no energy utilisation returns have been received in the most recent two reporting years — together with the most recent LFG extraction volume recorded for each such site, where held.

3. Confirmation of the standard condition wording (or a representative example) used in current NI PPC permits requiring landfill gas management reporting, including the reporting frequency and the data fields operators are required to submit.

I can advise that the Department has completed its search and can confirm that it holds the information you requested:

Please see answers to your requests below highlighted in [blue](#).

I request the following information held by NIEA in relation to landfill gas

If you are deaf or have a hearing difficulty you can contact the Department via the Next Generation Text Relay Service by dialling 18001 + telephone number.

management returns submitted by permitted landfill operators in Northern Ireland:

1. For each regulated landfill site in Northern Ireland for which NIEA holds annual or periodic landfill gas management returns or reports submitted by operators under PPC permit or licence conditions, please provide (for the most recent available reporting year, and where readily available, the preceding two years):

- Site name and site address (or grid reference)
- Name of the permit or licence holder (operator)
- Permit or licence reference number
- Reporting period covered (year or quarters)
- Total volume of landfill gas extracted during the period (m³ or Nm³)
- Volume of landfill gas flared (destroyed without energy recovery) during the period
- Volume of landfill gas utilised for electricity generation or other energy purposes during the period
- Whether the operator has reported any change in LFG utilisation status during the period (e.g. cessation of generation, transition from generation to flaring only, or vice versa)

[Attached 3 excel spreadsheet obtaining information requested for reporting years 2022, 2023 and 2024.](#)

2. A list of any landfill sites in Northern Ireland for which NIEA holds records indicating that landfill gas is being extracted but for which no energy utilisation returns have been received in the most recent two reporting years — together with the most recent LFG extraction volume recorded for each such site, where held.

[Attached 3 excel spreadsheet obtaining information requested for reporting years 2022, 2023 and 2024.](#)

3. Confirmation of the standard condition wording (or a representative example) used in current NI PPC permits requiring landfill gas management reporting, including the reporting frequency and the data fields operators are required to submit.

[Please see below as an example of 'the standard condition wording \(or a representative example\) used in current NI PPC permits requiring landfill gas management reporting'](#)

The Operator shall, unless otherwise agreed in writing by the Chief Inspector, undertake monitoring for the parameters, at the locations and at not less than the frequencies specified in the following tables in Schedule 4 to this Permit:

- (a) Point source emissions specified in Table S4.5;
- (b) Landfill gas specified in Tables S4.6, S4.7 and S4.8;

If you are deaf or have a hearing difficulty you can contact the Department via the Next Generation Text Relay Service by dialling 18001 + telephone number.

Please see tables below as an example of 'reporting frequency and the data fields'

Table S4.5 Point Source Emissions to Air – emission limits and monitoring requirements						
Emission point Ref. & Location	Parameter	Source	Limit (including unit)	Reference Period	Monitoring Frequency	Monitoring Standard or Method
Landfill gas engine emission monitoring points	Oxides of nitrogen	Landfill gas engines	Limits as set out in Tables A & B of EA Guidance for Monitoring Landfill Gas Engines LFTGN08	Hourly mean	Annually	In accordance with the relevant Environment Agency's Technical Guidance Note
	CO					
	Total VOCs					
Landfill gas flare emission monitoring points	Oxides of nitrogen	Landfill Gas Flare	Limits as set in EA Guidance for Monitoring Enclosed Landfill Gas Flares LFTGN05	Hourly mean	Annually	In accordance with the relevant Environment Agency's Technical Guidance Note
	CO					
	Total VOCs					
	NMVOCs					
	Operational temperature					

Table S4.6 Landfill gas in external monitoring boreholes – limits and monitoring requirements			
Parameter	Limit (including units)	Monitoring frequency	Monitoring standard or method
Methane	1 %v/v	Monthly	In accordance with Environment Agency Guidance Document LFTGN03 'Guidance on the Management of Landfill Gas'.
Carbon Dioxide	1.5 %v/v		
Oxygen	no limit		
Atmospheric pressure	no limit		
Differential Pressure	no limit		
Temperature	no limit		
Meteorological data	no limit		

Table S4.7 Landfill gas from capped surfaces - limits and monitoring requirements				
Monitoring point Ref. /description	Parameter	Limit (Including unit)	Monitoring frequency	Monitoring Standard or method
Permanently capped zone	Average Methane flux	0.001 mg/m2/second	Annually *	In accordance with Environment Agency Document TGN07 'Guidance on Monitoring Landfill Gas Surface Emissions'
Temporarily capped zone		0.1 mg/m2/second		

If you are deaf or have a hearing difficulty you can contact the Department via the Next Generation Text Relay Service by dialling 18001 + telephone number.

Table S4.8 Landfill gas – other monitoring requirements				
Emission point reference or source or description of point of measurement	Parameter	Monitoring frequency	Monitoring standard or method	Other specifications
All landfill gas extraction wells	Methane Carbon Dioxide Oxygen Carbon Monoxide Atmospheric pressure Differential pressure Temperature Meteorological data	Monthly	In accordance with Environment Agency Guidance Document LFTGN03'Guidance on the Management of Landfill Gas'	Limit of 5% for oxygen Where the concentration of carbon monoxide exceeds 100ppm then further investigation shall be undertaken.
Gas collection system manifolds	Trace gas analysis in accordance with LFTGN04	Annually	As per Environment Agency Document LFTGN04, V3 issued 2010 Monitoring Trace Components in Landfill Gas".	

If you require any clarification, believe that any part of your request has been overlooked, misunderstood or misinterpreted, please contact me in the first instance to see if it is a matter that can be resolved.

If you are unhappy with the manner in which your request for information has been handled or the decision to release/withhold information, you have the right to request a formal review by the Department. If you wish to do so, please contact The Review Section either by e-mailing daera.informationmanager@daera-ni.gov.uk or by post at The Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs, Data Protection & Information Management Branch, Floor 2, Jubilee House, 111 Ballykelly Road, Ballykelly, Limavady BT49 9HP, within two months from the date of this letter.

If after such an internal review you are still unhappy with the response, you have the right to appeal to the Information Commissioner at Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, CHESHIRE SK9 5AF, who will undertake an independent review of the Department's decision.

Yours sincerely,

Waste Permitting

If you are deaf or have a hearing difficulty you can contact the Department via the Next Generation Text Relay Service by dialling 18001 + telephone number.