

# **Public Interest Test – EIR**

**Reference Number – DAERA/26-231**

## **Requested Information**

Provide details of all complaints to DAERA in relation to DONMAC Farms Ltd (near Cookstown), including details of the complaint(s), copies of all DAERA material created during consideration of the issues, details of what DONMAC Farms Ltd said in response to these complaints, and the final outcome in each case.

## **Exemption / Exception under consideration**

Regulation 12(5)(e) – Confidentiality of commercial or industrial information

## **Reasons why the public interest would favour disclosure:**

- The right of the public to have access to information
- Release of the information would demonstrate openness and transparency regarding the NIEA Cost recovery process.

## **Reasons why the public interest would favour withholding:**

- to protect any legitimate economic interests underlying commercial confidentiality in relation to environmental remediation cost recovery.
- to permit fair tender/bids for future contracts, by third party companies, with the department.

## **Conclusion**

Following consideration under the Public Interest Test, the Department has decided to withhold the requested information in relation to DONMAC farms in order that any legitimate economic interests or underlying commercial confidentiality in relation to the business are protected. Therefore, the public interest in non-disclosure of the information outweighs the public interest in disclosure.

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**Water Pollution Response and Enforcement Team**