

Public Interest Test –EIR

Reference Number – DAERA/26-482

Requested Information

Sampling results for PFAS compounds in water, soils, eggs, biota, air from 1 January 2024 to present (date of EIR). Details to include: location, date, PFAS results, unit of measurement, matrix, name of site, organisation sampling and organisation managing site.

Exemption / Exception under consideration

- PFAS sample data for eggs, biota, air and terrestrial soil is not held therefore Regulation 12(4)(a) is engaged.
- With respect to private water supplies PFAS data (name of the site and of the organisation managing the site), where the site is other than a shared domestic supply, the requested information is commercial or industrial in nature and disclosure of the information could adversely impact a legitimate economic interest. Therefore Regulation 12(5)(e) is engaged.

Reasons why the public interest would favour disclosure:

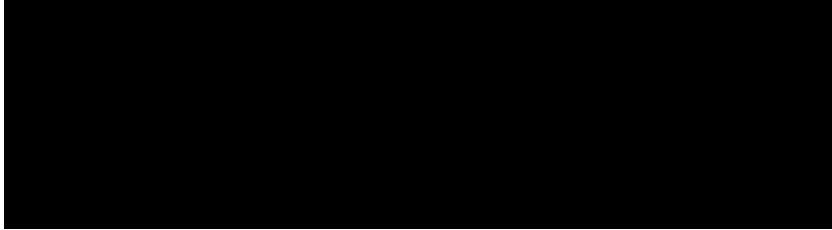
- The right of the public to have access to information. Transparency and accountability.
- Disclosure of environmental information supports the right of everyone to live in an adequate environment and ultimately contributes to a better environment.

Reasons why the public interest would favour withholding:

- Disclosure of the name of a private water supply site and the name of an organisation managing the private water supply site where the PFAS monitoring took place would adversely affect a legitimate economic interest through significant reputational damage which would result in a loss of revenue or income and assist its competitors.

Conclusion

Following consideration of the Public Interest Test in relation to the use of exceptions cited above, the Department has decided not to disclose some of the information as public interest in maintaining exception 12(5)(e) outweighs the public interest in disclosure.



Drinking Water Inspectorate, DAERA