



Northern Ireland Environment Agency
Gníomhaireacht Comhshaoil Thuaisceart Éireann
Norlin Airlan Environment Agency

Request:

Environmental records relating to Montupet (UK) Ltd / Linamar, Dunmurry Industrial Estate, Belfast from 1 January 2000 to present

Our reference- **DAERA/26-584**

██████████ via

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Industrial Pollution and Radiochemical
Inspectorate
17 Antrim Road
Tonagh
Lisburn
Co Antrim
BT28 3AL

Telephone: 028 906 9299

Email: IPRI@daera-ni.gov.uk

Date: 28/08/2026

Dear ██████████,

Environmental Information Regulations 2004

I am writing in relation to your request for information, received by the department on 7 August 2026, in which you requested the following information relating to Montupet (UK) Ltd / Linamar at Dunmurry Industrial Estate, Belfast, covering the period from 1 January 2000 to present, including:

1. Complaints concerning odours, smells, emissions, fumes, smoke, dust, air pollution or chemical releases;
2. Inspection, investigation and site visit records relating to complaints;
3. Correspondence between DAERA/NIEA and the operator concerning odour, emissions and environmental compliance;
4. Improvement Notices, Warning Letters, Enforcement Notices and Compliance Assessment Reports;
5. Emissions monitoring data, including data relating to amines and VOCs;
6. Odour, air emissions and abatement management documentation;
7. Records of meetings, emails, file notes or minutes relating to complaints;
8. Records relating to actions arising from the 2018 “damp cloth” odour investigation;
9. Records relating to fires, explosions, chemical incidents or accidental releases;
10. A year summary of complaints concerning the site.

Following a search of its records, the Department has identified that it holds a substantial volume of information falling within the scope of your request. The request covers a broad range of records over a lengthy period and includes information held

across multiple record management systems. This would require the Department to identify, retrieve, review and consider a significant number of electronic records and archived paper records stored in an off-site storage facility.

The estimated cost of processing your request is £9,350. An explanation of how this figure was calculated is shown in the table below.

Record Type	Approximate Number of Records	Estimated Cost	Total Estimated Cost
Electronic	2,152 records x 3 minutes per record = 107 hours	107 hours at £25 per hour	£2,675
Historic hard copy held in off-site storage	Approx 3,200 records x 5 minutes per record = 267 hours	267 hours at £25 per hour	£6,675
-	5,352	374 hours at £25 per hour	£9,350

Under Regulation 12(4)(b) of the Environmental Information Regulations 2004, the Department may refuse to provide environmental information where the request for information is manifestly unreasonable. Where a substantial amount of work is required to process a request, the Department may decline to provide a response, provided that the public interest is weighed in favour of refusing the request.

The Department believes the voluminous nature of this request makes it manifestly unreasonable. The Department recognises the presumption in favour of disclosure under Regulation 12(2) and the public interest in openness, and transparency.

However, given the breadth of the request and the volume of records identified, complying with the request would require a substantial diversion of staff resources for an estimated 374 hours. This would have a significant adverse impact on the Department's ability to carry out its statutory functions and deliver essential public services.

Under these circumstances the Department has decided that the wider public interest is best served by not diverting the department's resources to facilitate the provision of this information.

Under Regulation 9 of the Environmental Information Regulations 2004, the Department is obligated to provide you with advice and assistance, for example, you may wish to consider specifying a narrower timeframe or a more focused area of interest. The Department would be content to consider any revised request.

If you require any clarification or 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 way your request for information has been handled or the decision to release/withhold information, you have the right to request a formal review

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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

Conor Dolan

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