

Reference Number: DAERA/26-710

Request Details: Formal letter
regarding NWP Glenside



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

An Roinn

**Talmhaíochta, Comhshaoil
agus Gnóthaí Tuaithe**

Deparltment o'

**Fairmin, Environment
an' Kintra Matthers**

www.daera-ni.gov.uk

**Northern Ireland Environment Agency
Waste & Industrial Pollution Regulation and Enforcement Division**

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

NIEA Regulation Unit
17 Antrim Road
Lisburn
Tonagh
BT28 3AL

Email: daera.informationmanager@daera-ni.gov.uk

06 October 2026

Dear [REDACTED],

Environmental Information Regulations 2004

I refer to your request for information received by the Department on 10 September 2026 that sought the information set out in Appendix A.

As explained in the information sheet enclosed with the acknowledgement letter, under certain conditions, the Department has the right to refuse to respond to a request for information.

NIEA has received a significant number of complex, extensive and often repetitive requests for information relating to the NWP, Glenside Road site. Many of these requests seek similar or substantially the same information that has previously been requested and responded to.

The Department will engage regulation 12(4)(b) manifestly unreasonable in this instance, a completed Public Interest Test is included in Appendix B for your information.

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.

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The volume and complexity of these requests have placed a disproportionate burden on departmental resources and are significantly impacting the ability of NIEA staff to carry out their statutory functions. In particular, the time required to identify, retrieve, review and prepare responses to requests concerning the NWP, Glenside Road site is affecting the Waste Permitting Team's capacity to fulfil its other statutory duties and regulatory responsibilities.

NIEA has already released a substantial amount of information relating to the site into the public domain. This information is available through the DAERA Publication Scheme and can be accessed at the following link: [DAERA Publication Scheme | Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs](#)

In light of the significant volume of information already published and the ongoing impact that repeated requests are having on the department's resources, NIEA will cannot provide further responses to requests that seek information already published, previously released, or that substantially duplicate earlier requests. Requesters are therefore encouraged to consult the information available through the DAERA Publication Scheme in the first instance.

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 Team

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Appendix A

Requested Information

In light of the above, I would be grateful for NIEA's confirmation of the following:

- i. whether NIEA has reviewed the quarterly Off-Specification Compost return data for this site against the technical and capacity assumptions underpinning the V3 and V4 tonnage increases, and if so, the outcome of that review;
- ii. whether NIEA has independently verified NWP's mass balance data, referred to above, as submitted in support of the permit variation applications;
- iii. whether NIEA considers the facility remains capable of operating within Best Available Techniques, and within the terms of its permit, at an input limit of 175,000 tonnes per annum, given the scale of Off-Specification Compost output evidenced by its own quarterly returns;
- iv. whether NIEA proposes to review the Table S1.4 annual waste input limit, or any other permit condition, in light of the facility's demonstrated CQP-compliant capacity;
- v. a copy of any technical assessment, review, or internal record addressing the relationship between Off-Specification Compost output and the site's permitted input capacity, whether prepared in connection with V3, V4, or otherwise;
- vi. NIEA's position on whether the Glenside facility's IVC/composting activity is a recovery operation and, if NIEA considers that it is not, the statutory basis for that position;
- vii. copies (redacted) of the Annex VII transfrontier shipment information documents held or reviewed by NIEA for organic waste imported to this site from the Republic of Ireland, including the recovery code(s) recorded on them; and
- viii. confirmation of whether NIEA has reconciled its position on the facility's recovery status with the operator's own Annex VII import documentation, and if so, how;
- ix. confirmation of NIEA's role, if any, in verifying or validating the recycling, recovery and disposal figures reported by councils sending waste to Glenside, and by NWP itself, for inclusion in DAERA's quarterly and annual Northern Ireland waste statistics;
- x. confirmation of whether NIEA has reconciled the Off-Specification Compost data in its own quarterly returns for this site with the recycling and recovery figures reported to, and by, councils sending waste to the facility; and
- xi. any guidance, protocol, or internal record describing NIEA's role in verifying council- or DAERA-reported recycling and recovery figures, and any assessment or correspondence addressing this site's contribution to those figures.

Appendix B

Public Interest Test – Environmental Information Regulations

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Requested Information: Refer to Appendix A.

Exemption / Exceptions under consideration
Regulation 12(4)(b)

Reasons why the public interest would favour disclosure:

- Everyone has the right to access environmental information.
- DAERA is committed to conducting its business in a manner that is as open and transparent as possible.

Reasons why the public interest would favour withholding:

- Complying with the volume of information requested would apply an unjustified level of diversion of staff from other statutory duties.
- The subject of this request has already been partially addressed as well as a significant amount of other related information.

Conclusion

Following consideration of the Public Interest Test, the Department has decided that it would not be in the public interest to completely fulfil the request made by the requestor. The Department considers this to be manifestly unreasonable based on the burden of dealing with the request and consequent diversion of resources in dealing with this query.

Waste Permitting Team