

Reference Number: DAERA/26-725

Request Details:

Information held by DAERA/IPRI relating to Cs-137 assessment(s) with regards to the Curraghinalt Public Local Inquiry.



Department of

**Agriculture, Environment
and Rural Affairs**

An Roinn

**Talmhaíochta, Comhshaoil
agus Gnóthaí Tuaithe**

Department o'

**Fairmin, Environment
an' Kintra Matthers**

www.daera-ni.gov.uk



Industrial Pollution and Radiochemical
Inspectorate.

17 Antrim Road

Lisburn

BT28 3AL

Address Line 4

Telephone: 028 9056 9289

E-mail: ipri@daera-ni.gov.uk

08 October 2026

Dear 

Environmental Information Regulation 2004

I refer to your request for information received by the Department on 14 September 2026 as detailed below:

- a) Records showing whether the Cs 137 entries in Appendix C7, Table 7 7 were considered by IPRI;
- b) Any existing screening criterion, calculation, technical advice, internal consultation or assessment applied to those entries;
- c) Records of any consideration of redistribution through disturbed peat, soil, sediment or water pathways; and
- d) Records identifying the scope of IPRI's 24 April 2020 conclusion insofar as it may relate to Cs 137.

Under Regulation 12(4)(a) the Department is excepted from the duty to disclose the information on the grounds that the information sought is not held.

Artificial radionuclides which are present throughout the environment, for example as a result of atmospheric weapons tests and accidents, are not regulated under the Radioactive Substances Act 1993 (RSA93) as it only covers artificial (anthropogenic) radionuclides which are being used/processed for their radioactive, fertile or fissile

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properties. Therefore, these results were not considered by IPRI in their response to the Dalradian planning consultation.

However, the activity limit above which a material containing Cs137 is considered as radioactive for the purposes of the RSA93 is 1Bq/g. The results that you referred to in the Dalradian samples are both well below this “out of scope” limit and as such would not be considered radioactive material for the purposes of this regulatory regime.

The legislative regime that would capture that type of radioactive contamination is the Radioactive Contaminated Land Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2006. This regime places a duty on the Chief Radiochemical Inspector of NIEA to investigate the condition of land where there are reasonable grounds to believe that such land is causing lasting exposure. There is no reason to believe that the very low levels of Cs137 contamination revealed in the results from monitoring carried out by Dalradian is likely to be causing lasting exposure.

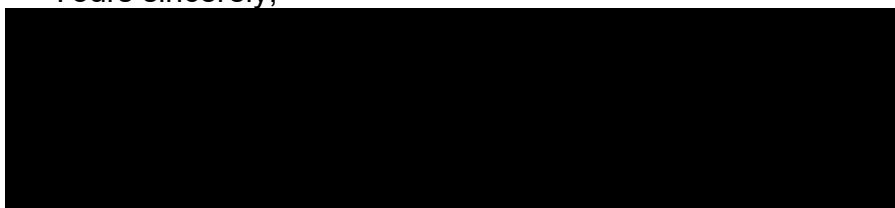
Out of scope limits in RSA93 are set based on an annual dose limit of 10uSv. The dose limit used for the purposes of the Radioactive Contaminated Land Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2006 is 3000uSv/yr.

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,



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