Reference Number: DAERA/26-786

Request Details:

Planning application LA10/2017/1249/F (Curraghinalt Gold Mine): the valley mire, the Pollanroe Burn and marsh fritillary.

Department of
Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs
An Roinn
Talmhaíochta, Comhshaoil agus Gnóthaí Tuaithe
Depairtment o'
Fairmin, Environment an' Kintra Matthers
www.daera-ni.gov.uk

Northern Ireland Environment Agency

Water Regulation and Enforcement Division

[redacted]

Water Regulation

[redacted]

17 Antrim Road

Lisburn

BT28

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

05 November 2026

[redacted]

Environmental Information Regulation 2004

I refer to your request for information received by the Department on 09 October 2026 that sought the following information:

Information related to Planning application LA10/2017/1249/F (Curraghinalt Gold Mine): the valley mire, the Pollanroe Burn and marsh fritillary.

I can advise that the Department has completed its search and can confirm that it holds the information you requested.

The information held which can be disclosed is below.

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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On the main mine application, NIEA has provided detailed comments on the issues you have highlighted in your request. These comments are publicly available and formed NIEA's contribution to the Department for Infrastructures (DFI) Statement of Case (SOC) for the Curraghinalt Public Local Inquiry. The DFI SOC is available at: DfI Statement of Case - Mine Application LA10-2017-1249-F . The relevant contribution from NIEA is available on pdf pages 56-85.

On the powerline applications, NIEA has provided detailed comments on the issues you have highlighted in your request. These comments are publicly available and formed NIEA's contribution to the Department for Infrastructures (DFI) Statement of Case (SOC) for the Curraghinalt Public Local Inquiry. The DFI SOC is available at: DfI Statement of Case - The Powerlines Applications LA10-2019-1386-F & LA11-2019-1000-F . The relevant contribution from NIEA is available on pdf pages 41-63.

On the main mine application, NIEA has provided detailed comments on the issues you have highlighted in your request. These comments are publicly available and formed NIEA's contribution to the Department for Infrastructures (DFI) Rebuttal Statement (RS) for the Curraghinalt Public Local Inquiry. The DFI RS is available at: DfI Rebuttal - Mine Application - LA10-2017-1249-F . The relevant contribution from NIEA is available on pdf pages 37-99.

On the powerline application, NIEA has provided detailed comments on the issues you have highlighted in your request. These comments are publicly available and formed NIEA's contribution to the Department for Infrastructures (DFI) Rebuttal Statement (RS)) for the Curraghinalt Public Local Inquiry. The DFI RS is available at: DfI - Powerlines Rebuttal - LA10 2019 1386 F & LA11 2019 1000 F- 2021 C006 & 2021 C007 . The relevant contribution from NIEA is available on pdf pages 14-38.

You have asked for any application for, or grant of, a licence to survey for marsh fritillary on or near the site, made by or for Dalradian Gold Limited or its consultants, from 2015 to date. You have recently asked for this information under separate cover, and a response is currently being prepared. Your reference is DAERA 26/785.

You have also asked for any record assessing the relationship between the headwaters of the Pollanroe Burn, salmon habitat in the burn, and the Owenreagh River ASSI and Owenkillew River SAC, including the location of salmon records relative to the reaches to be lost. Loughs Agency are the competent authority in relation to Atlantic Salmon. As such, your query should be directed to them at: info@loughs-agency.org

Your letter also refers to evidence presented, and matters relevant to or already discussed at the conjoined inquiries. You have had the opportunity to make submissions relating to the points raised in your letter, within the inquiry processes.

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Those processes enable the applicant to consider and if necessary respond to the points you have made, and provide an opportunity for other parties to express any relevant views, in order to inform the Appeal Commission's report to the Department. It is accordingly not appropriate for the Department to engage in correspondence about the merits of the applications, or issues raised within the inquiry process, outside of that process. In so far as your letter raises new matters, you may request that they be considered by the Appeals Commission in accordance with the published inquiry procedures. It will be a matter for the Appeals Commission whether you are permitted to raise them.

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,

[redacted]

Water Regulation

Northern Ireland Environment Agency

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