

Our Ref: AE2-24-32478

Email only to:

Email: [REDACTED]@[daera-ni.gov.uk](mailto:daera-ni.gov.uk)

[Dalradian.CPI@pacni.gov.uk](mailto:Dalradian.CPI@pacni.gov.uk)

03 April 2024

Dear Commissioner,

**RE: Curraghinalt Project (Dalradian) – Actions from Pre-Inquiry Meeting**

Following the pre-inquiry meeting on 20 March 2024, in the Strule Arts Center in Omagh, regarding the Curraghinalt Project (Dalradian), NIEA committed to provide additional information to the Commission. In respect of this, I note the Commission has published on its website, dated 22 March 2024, a list of the documents that the Northern Ireland Environment Agency (NIEA) has agreed to supply, specifically:

1. Correspondence detailing acknowledgement or receipt of applications for AIL 2020 0105, AIL 2020 0106, TrC 080/20\_1 and TrC 081/20\_1, which should detail the date of receipt of the applications.
2. Copies of the newspaper advertisements for applications for AIL 2020 0105, AIL 2020 0106, TrC 080/20\_1 and TrC 081/20\_1.
3. Correspondence between DAERA and DfI Rivers confirming that the Water Ponds do not constitute Controlled Reservoirs.
4. Documentation clarifying all extensions of time agreed for the abstraction and impoundment licence applications and discharge consent applications.
5. All documentation and correspondence with applicant in setting parameters for discharge consents and pre application discussions.

*Sustainability at the heart of a living, working, active landscape valued by everyone.*

6. Any other consent to discharge approvals, drawings and background papers, monitoring and on-going correspondence for the site.

It is NIEA's intention to provide the Commission with this information via separate covering emails and I note, from the note published on the Commission website on 22 March 2024, that it is the intention of the Commission to upload this information to the Commission's website, under the Inquiries tab.

In addition to the above actions, NIEA committed to ensuring the Abstraction and Impoundment Licence application documents relating to AIL 2020 1050 and AIL 2020 1060 to be made available on the DAERA website within 5 days of the pre-inquiry meeting. I can confirm that on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> March all applications and supporting information was available on the following links:

- [Applying to abstract or impound water | Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs \(daera-ni.gov.uk\)](https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/abstracting-and-impounding-water)
- [Application for Consent to Discharge TrC 80/20 | Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs \(daera-ni.gov.uk\)](https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/consent-to-discharge-trc-8020)
- [Application for Consent to Discharge TrC 081/20 | Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs \(daera-ni.gov.uk\)](https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/consent-to-discharge-trc-08120)

At the pre-inquiry meeting you also requested that NIEA provide in writing, an indication of the current issues that NIEA feel should be raised at the inquiry in respect of the four applications for environmental authorisations. I have set out the headline issues below which will be addressed in more detail in the NIEA Statement of Case.

- The potential impact upon the Owenkillew River SAC and the Owenreagh River ASSI from the proposed applications to discharge, abstract and impound water.
- The potential impact upon water quality and resource from the proposed applications to discharge, abstract and impound water.
- The application of the appropriate legal framework and published standards for the protection of water quality and associated habitats and species.

*Sustainability at the heart of a living, working, active landscape valued by everyone.*



I am also aware that additional issues may arise from other parties, through the Statement of Case process.

At the pre-inquiry meeting the Commission requested from NIEA a copy of the notification sent to Loughs Agency, from the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA), of the Department's instruction to the PAC to hold a public local inquiry into representations received in relation to the 4 applications for environmental authorisations. I note this request was not included in the list of actions published by the Commission, on 22 March 2024. However, I will forward the originally requested document in a separate covering email.

I trust you will find the above information and the emails, to follow separately, useful.

Yours sincerely,

  
**Water Management Unit**

*Sustainability at the heart of a living, working, active landscape valued by everyone.*



An Agency within the Department of  
**Agriculture, Environment  
and Rural Affairs**  
[www.daera-ni.gov.uk](http://www.daera-ni.gov.uk)



**INVESTORS  
IN PEOPLE**