



Planning Appeals Commission
4th Floor
92 Ann Street
Belfast
BT1 3HH
T: 028 9024 4710
E: info@pacni.gov.uk

Date: 9th February 2024

RE: THE CONJOINED PUBLIC LOCAL INQUIRIES COMPRISING OF:

- 1. 2021/C005 - a Public Local Inquiry under Section 26(10) of the Planning Act (Northern Ireland) 2011 for planning application LA10/2017/1249/F on behalf of Dalradian Gold Ltd for '*Underground valuable minerals mining and exploration, surface level development including processing plant and other associated development and ancillary works*', Greencastle, County Tyrone at lands 165m West of No. 45 Camcosy Road to the junction of Camcosy Road and Crockanboy Road to Lands 47m to the South East of No. 73 Crockanboy Road.**
- 2. 2021/C006 – a Public Local Inquiry under Section 29(6) of the Planning Act (Northern Ireland) 2011 for planning application LA10/2019/1386/F on behalf of NIE Networks for a '*33kV power line involving both construction of above ground 33kV overhead line supported by wooden poles and underground 33kV cable laid below ground level in ducts, to serve Curraghinalt mine (currently under consideration - planning application LA10/2017/1249/F). 33kV connection is c37.9 km in length, comprising of c26.9 km of overhead line supported by single and double wooden pole sets and c11 km of underground cabling c 15.1 km of the powerline is within the Fermanagh & Omagh District Council area comprising of c 8.2 km of overhead line supported by single and double wooden pole sets and c 6.9 km of underground cabling*' at lands 737m NW of 56 Mullydoo Road Greencastle through townlands of Crockanboy Teebane West Casorna Rousky Drumlea Garvagh Meenadoo Trinamadan and Culvacullion ending at 785m NW of 24 Meenadoo Road, Culvacullion, Gortin'.**
- 3. 2021/C007 – a Public Local Inquiry under Section 29(6) of the Planning Act (Northern Ireland) 2011 for planning application LA11/2019/1000/F on behalf of NIE Networks for '*a 33kV power line involving both construction of above ground 33kV overhead line supported by wooden poles and underground 33kV cable laid below ground level in ducts, to serve Curraghinalt mine (currently under consideration planning application LA10/2017/1249/F). 33kV connection is c37.9 km in length, comprising of c26.9 km of overhead line supported by single and double wooden pole sets and c11 km of underground cabling. c 22.8 km of the powerline is within the Derry City & Strabane District Council area comprising of c 18.7km of overhead line supported by single and double wooden pole sets and c 4.1 km of underground cabling*' at lands Adjoining 89 Woodend Road Ballymagorry through townlands of Ballymagorry, Woodend, Milltown, Ballee, Holly-hill, Kennaghan, Owenreagh, Knockanbrack, Lagvittal,**

Knocklnarvoer, Craignagapple, Lagavadder, Ballykeery, Craigatuke, Meendamp, Balix Upper, Letterbrat Glencoppogagh (Main Portion) Aghalane and Lisnacraight ending at 681m NW of 24 Meenadoo Road, Culvacullion, Gortin.

4. **2021/WHR01 – a Public Local Inquiry under Schedule 1, paragraph (3) of the Water (Northern Ireland) Order 1999 for a consent to discharge application TrC 080/20_1 – DAERA, on behalf of Dalradian Gold Ltd.**
5. **2021/WHR02 - a Public Local Inquiry under Schedule 1, paragraph (3) of the Water (Northern Ireland) Order 1999 for a consent to discharge application Ltd TrC 081/20_1 – DAERA, on behalf of Dalradian Gold Ltd.**
6. **2021/WHR03 – a Public Local Inquiry under Regulation 17 of the Water Abstraction and Impoundment (Licencing) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2006 for application AIL 2020 0105 – NIEA, to abstract and impound water on behalf of Dalradian Gold Ltd.**
7. **2021/WHR04 - a Public Local Inquiry under Regulation 17 of the Water Abstraction and Impoundment (Licencing) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2006 for application AIL 2020 0106 – NIEA, to abstract and impound water on behalf of Dalradian Gold Ltd.**
8. **2021/DR001 – a Public Local Inquiry for a proposed road abandonment order for part of the Crockanboy Road for application (IN1-21-5706) under paragraph 4 of Schedule 8 of the Roads Order (Northern Ireland) 1993 on behalf of Dalradian Gold Ltd.**

Dear Sir/Madam

The Department for Infrastructure (DfI), the Northern Ireland Environment Agency (NIEA), and the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA) have asked the Commission to conduct Public Local Inquiries to consider representations made in respect of the applications listed above comprising of the ‘Curraghinalt Project (Dalradian Gold)’. The Commission is now in a position to set out the arrangements.

The Commission has decided to hold a pre-inquiry meeting at **10.30am on Wednesday, 20th March 2024** at the Strule Arts Centre, Omagh in relation to the above. The purpose of the meeting is to outline the arrangements for the above Inquiries and to deal with procedural matters. Due to the level of public interest, the Commission will broadcast this meeting on its YouTube Channel in order that individuals can observe proceedings remotely. A link will be posted on the Commission’s website approximately one week prior to the date of the meeting.

Department representatives for DfI Planning, NIEA, DAERA and DfI Roads who are authorised to speak to the Departments’ final positions are requested to attend. The applicants and third parties are also invited to send their representatives to this meeting. The third parties are requested to please fill in the attached questionnaire and return by post

to the above address or by email to Dalradian.CPI@pacni.gov.uk by **4pm** on **6th March 2024**. As per the “*Procedures for the Curraghinalt Project (Dalradian Gold) conjoined Public Local Inquiries*” document on the Commission’s website as of 9th February 2024 you are encouraged to pool resources together with people with common cause in nominating representatives to speak at the meeting. Please note that there will be no discussion of the merits of the proposal at the pre-inquiry meeting. The meeting is to discuss procedural aspects and outline arrangements.

The Commission will open the conjoined Public Local Inquiries on **10th September 2024** at **10.30am** at the Strule Arts Centre, Omagh. Further details will be communicated to parties in due course.

Please ensure that all statements of case are submitted to the Commission by **4.00pm** on **Friday, 17th May 2024**. You may submit statements of case electronically. However, **four hard copies** must also be provided. Separate statements of case are requested for the different elements of the inquiry. You may submit a statement of case for one or more elements of the inquiry. The arrangements are as follows:

- (i) A statement of case for the Curraghinalt Mine Project (LA10/2017/1249/F) which should not exceed **3,000 words**;
- (ii) A statement of case for the Curraghinalt 33Kv Project (including both LA10/2019/1386/F and LA11/2019/1000/F) which should not exceed **3,000 words**;
- (iii) A statement of case for the proposed road abandonment order which should not exceed **1,500 words**;
- (iv) A statement of case for the two applications (TrC 080/20_1 – DAERA and TrC 081/20_1 – DAERA) for consent to discharge which should not exceed **1,500 words**; and
- (v) A statement of case for the two applications (AIL 2020 0105 – NIEA and AIL 2020 0106 – NIEA) for licences to abstract and impound water which should not exceed **1,500 words**.

Appendices may be used for supporting information, but arguments must be confined to the main body of the statement.

The Departments, whilst reserving their opinions on the final outcome of the applications, will be expected to give clear views on each of the main issues before the inquiries. The Departments will also be expected to include within their statements of case a set of draft conditions if applicable and necessary. All parties will have an opportunity to comment on any suggested conditions. The conditions will be discussed on a without prejudice basis.

The Commission will exchange the statements of case following their submission. Your clients will be afforded an opportunity to comment in writing on the other parties’ statements by 4.00pm on **Monday, 14th June 2024**. The total length of any rebuttal statement should not exceed **1,500 words**. These may be submitted electronically or by post, and again **four hard copies** must also be submitted.

The Commission proposes to conduct the inquiries using a combination of formal and informal hearing procedures. Written evidence will be taken as read and there will be no opening statements from the parties. The inquiries will work through an agenda prepared by the Commissioners, who will lead a round table discussion on each agenda item in turn.

Before moving on from each item, the Commissioners will give all parties an opportunity for formal questioning or submissions to cover any issues pertinent to that item. After the conjoined inquiries, the Commission will prepare the separate reports with recommendations to the respective Departments. The final decision on all the applications will rest with the Departments.

As referred to above, the Commission has produced a bespoke booklet entitled "*Procedures for the Curraghinalt Project (Dalradian Gold) conjoined Public Local Inquiries*". The booklet can be downloaded from our website www.pacni.gov.uk. If you have any further queries, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours faithfully,

Dennis Lucas
Chief Administrative Officer

SUMMARY OF ARRANGEMENTS

Pre-inquiry meeting at:-	10.30am on 20/03/2024
Statements of case by:-	4pm on 17/05/2024
Rebuttals by:-	4pm on 14/06/2024
Inquiry opens at:-	10.30am on 10/09/2024