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OUR REFERENCE

2021/WHR03 – WHR04

DATE

25th April 2024

Water Regulation Team
DAERA

By Email

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.

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.

Dear ██████████

Thank you for your correspondence dated 24th April 2024.

In light of the position, the public inquiries into the abstraction and impoundment applications can no longer form part of the current conjoined public inquiry which is expected to open on 10th September 2024. The Commission will be notifying parties accordingly and advising that statements of case should no longer be submitted in respect of the abstraction and impoundment applications. The Commission will also be closing the two referred cases above.

The abstraction and impoundment applications were two of eight requests to the Commission to hold public inquiries in relation to the Dalradian project. All requests for the relevant public inquiries had been co-ordinated by the referring authorities so that all related applications would be considered together as part of a conjoined inquiry. We will be contacting all referring authorities to ascertain how they wish to proceed in the absence of the public inquiries into the water abstraction and impoundment applications.

The Commission notes that in your most recent correspondence you state that you have received a letter from the applicant on 24th April 2024 which indicates that two new applications will be submitted shortly. It is also noted that you have given a commitment to process these applications with extreme urgency. The Commission request that you notify us upon receipt of the new applications and provide us with an approximate timeframe of the likely processing times for the new water abstraction and impoundment applications.

In line with the Commission's policy of openness and transparency, this correspondence will be uploaded to the Commission's website.

Yours sincerely

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Programme Officer