

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, February 5, 2021 2:53 PM  
**To:** [REDACTED]@pacni.gov.uk>  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]@infrastructure-ni.gov.uk>; [REDACTED]  
<[REDACTED]@infrastructure-ni.gov.uk>; [REDACTED]@infrastructure-  
ni.gov.uk) [REDACTED]@infrastructure-ni.gov.uk>  
**Subject:** RE: FAO: [REDACTED] Chief Commissioner - RE: Dalradian Gold

[REDACTED]

Thanks for your reply. The inquiries initiated by NIEA would fall under the PAC/WAC's statutory remit. I have included the relevant references to the legislation below.

I note the PAC plan to meet with DFI in the next couple of months and NIEA would be happy to attend that meeting. Once you put something in the diary please include myself. I believe an early meeting on this issue would be useful as NIEA has never utilised our public inquiry remit thus it represents new ground for all concerned.

If you require anything further, at this stage, please let me know.

Best Regards  
[REDACTED]

The Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA), of which NIEA is an Executive Agency, may direct the Water Appeals Commission for Northern Ireland to hold a public local inquiry under the following pieces of legislation:

- The Water (Northern Ireland) Order 1999, (Schedule 1. 3 (1) ;
- The Water Abstraction and Impoundment (Licensing) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2006 (regulation 17 (1).

Further to this Schedule 1. 3 (4) of The Water (Northern Ireland) Order 1999 states:

- Where any representations made in respect of an application made under paragraph 1 (Discharge Consent) are, in the opinion of the Department, relevant to a public local inquiry to be held by the Planning Appeals Commission under Article 31 of the Planning Order (major planning applications), the Department may direct that those representations shall be considered by that inquiry

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 29 January 2021 10:43  
**To:** [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@daera-ni.gov.uk>  
**Subject:** RE: FAO: [REDACTED] Chief Commissioner - RE: Dalradian Gold

Good morning [REDACTED]

I hope you're well this grey morning and coping with the twin demands of home schooling and your own work – the good news is, it's Friday.

While no formal referral has yet been made to the Commission and our understanding is that the referral is not imminent, we have been in discussions with Dfi in terms of the referral itself and the likely volume of information involved. The Chief Commissioner advises that she expects to meet

again with DfI in a couple of months to discuss the administrative aspects of our Hear and Report work, and this would be an opportune time to arrange a meeting with you as by that stage we will hopefully have made significant progress in respect of larger scale remote hearings.

In the meantime, the Commission needs to establish whether inquiries initiated by NIEA falls within our statutory remit or will be conducted as a non-statutory work stream. Would it be possible for you to provide further detail in this respect?

Stay well,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] | Planning & Water Appeals Commission  
Level 3 Park House | 87/91 Great Victoria Street | Belfast BT2 7AG

**From:** [REDACTED]@daera-ni.gov.uk  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 20, 2021 12:37 PM  
**To:** Info, Pacni <info@pacni.gov.uk>  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]@infrastructure-ni.gov.uk; [REDACTED] (Planning)  
[REDACTED]@infrastructure-ni.gov.uk; [REDACTED]@infrastructure-ni.gov.uk  
**Subject:** FAO: [REDACTED] Chief Commissioner - RE: Dalradian Gold

Dear [REDACTED],

You may recall that I met with yourself and [REDACTED] over 18 months ago to discuss NIEA's proposals to initiate public inquiries in regard to discharge consents and abstraction licences required by Dalradian Gold Ltd as part of their full mine proposals, which are subject to a current planning application, LA10/2017/1249/F.

Since our meeting, Dalradian Gold Ltd have submitted applications for discharge consents and abstraction licences, and these have been subject of public advertisement and have attracted a significant number of representations.

Given the progress of Dalradian's applications I believe it would be useful to meet again to discuss NIEA's proposals to initiate public inquiries into these applications and to have them co-joined with the planned public inquiry for the planning application, as announced by the DfI Minister on the 29 June 2020. To that end it may be useful to have a joint meeting with DfI officials to discuss likely resources, timeframes and the administrative elements of such an undertaking.

If you are content to meet at this stage I will happily liaise with your office and DfI officials to arrange a mutually convenient date and time to meet.

Best regards

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

MCI & WMU Development Management Team  
Northern Ireland Environment Agency  
17 Antrim Road  
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028 92 [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]



Department of  
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and Rural Affairs**  
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