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ECONOMIC COMMISSION
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Ref: ACCC/C/2014/112

29 June 2015

Marguerite Ryan
Environment Policy and Awareness
Department of the Environment, Community and Local Government
Wexford
Ireland

Dear Ms. Ryan,

Re: Communication to the Aarhus Convention Compliance Committee concerning compliance by Ireland with provisions of the Convention in connection with the National Renewable Energy Action Plan (ACCC/C/2014/112)

On 29 May 2014, the secretariat of the Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters (Aarhus Convention) received the above communication addressed to the Compliance Committee of the Convention. The communication alleges non-compliance with article 3, paragraph 1 and articles 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9 of the Convention in connection with the implementation of the EU's renewable energy programme in Ireland through the Irish National Renewable Energy Action Plan. The communication was submitted in accordance with the provisions of chapter VI of the annex to decision I/7 of the Meeting of the Parties.

Please find enclosed a copy of the communication, which is being forwarded to you at the request of the Committee in accordance with the provisions of paragraph 22 of the annex to decision I/7.

The communication has been registered under the symbol ACCC/C/2014/112, which you are invited to cite in future correspondence on the matter. The main documentation relating to the communication is available on the Committee's web site at: <http://www.unece.org/env/pp/pubcom.html>.

After deferring its determination of preliminary determination of admissibility in order to seek further clarification from the communicants regarding: (i) which of their allegations related to events which took place after the Convention entered into force for Ireland; and (ii) the extent to which domestic remedies had been used, the Compliance Committee, at its forty-seventh meeting (16-19 December 2014), determined it to be admissible on a preliminary basis in accordance with paragraph 20 of the annex to decision I/7. A copy of the preliminary determination on admissibility is attached. Please note, however, that the Committee has not reached any conclusions with respect to the compliance issues referred to in the communication.

Having regard to paragraph 23 of the annex to decision I/7, you are kindly invited to submit to the Committee, as soon as possible but at the latest within five months of the date of this letter (i.e. by **29 November 2015**), any written explanations or statements clarifying the matter referred to in the communication and describing any response that may have been made in the meantime.

Please do not hesitate to contact the secretariat if you require any further information.

Yours sincerely,



Fiona Marshall
Secretary to the Aarhus Convention Compliance Committee

- Cc: Permanent Mission of Ireland to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva
Mr. Neil Van Dokkum, Mr. David Malone, Mr. Pat Swords (on behalf of the communicants of ACCC/C/2014/112)
- Enc: Communication ACCC/C/2014/112 (including 2 supporting documents and 7 subsequent documents)
Preliminary determination on admissibility