

7 August 2020

Ms. Aoife Joyce
Aarhus, Bioeconomy and Environmental Awareness
Department of Communications, Climate Action and Environment
Ireland

Dear Ms. Joyce,

Re: Communication to the Aarhus Convention Compliance Committee concerning compliance by Ireland with articles 3, 4 and 9 of the Convention in relation to its system for reviewing decisions to refuse access to environmental information (ACCC/C/2016/141)

I write to inform you that on 5 August 2020, the Compliance Committee agreed its draft findings regarding communication ACCC/C/2016/141 through its electronic decision-making procedure.

The draft findings are now forwarded at the request of the Committee for your consideration and possible comments pursuant to paragraph 34 of the annex to decision I/7. Taking into account the present holiday period, we would be grateful if you would provide any comments by **Friday, 25 September 2020**. In finalizing the findings, the Committee will take into account any comments you submit on the draft findings by the set deadline.

The text has been drafted on the assumption that Ireland agrees with the Committee making recommendations in accordance with paragraph 36(b) of the annex to decision I/7. If this is not the case, please indicate this in your reply. Given the time remaining until the seventh session of the Meeting of the Parties, the Committee considers that the making of recommendations directly to the Party concerned, coupled with timely action by the Party to implement such recommendations, would enable the matters to be resolved in the most expeditious way.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the secretariat.

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. Fred Logue, representing Right to Know, the communicant of communication ACCC/C/2016/141
The Environmental Pillar, as an observer
Mr. Steven Minch, as an observer

Enc: Draft findings for the parties' comments