

Mary T. O'Keefe

From: Bord
Sent: Tuesday 17 August 2021 15:58
To: Appeals2
Subject: FW: Reply from DECC re EIS 21/295 Quarry development at Windmillhill Rathcoole, Co.Dublin
Attachments: 21_295b Quarry development at Windmillhill Rathcoole Co Dublin.pdf; 21_295a Quarry development at Windmillhill Rathcoole Co Dublin.pdf; GSI datasets relevant to EIA & SEA_20210421.pdf

From: CorporateSupport.Unit <CorporateSupport.Unit@decc.gov.ie>
Sent: Tuesday 17 August 2021 15:46
To: Bord <bord@pleanala.ie>
Cc: CorporateSupport.Unit <CorporateSupport.Unit@decc.gov.ie>
Subject: Reply from DECC re EIS 21/295 Quarry development at Windmillhill Rathcoole, Co.Dublin

An Bord Pleanála Reference: ABP-310466-21

Good afternoon,
Please see attached and below a reply from Ms. Trish Smullen and Dr Clare Glanville (Senior Geologist) on behalf of Geological Survey Ireland (a division of the Department of Environment, Climate and Communication) for the subject below. Please forward an acknowledgement of receipt to CorporateSupport.Unit@decc.gov.ie at your earliest convenience.

Regards,
Enda Brady,
Corporate Support Unit,
Department of Environment, Climate and Communications.
087 623 7714

From: GSI Planning
Sent: 17 August 2021 15:21
To: CorporateSupport.Unit
Cc: Clare Glanville; GSI Planning
Subject: RE: EIS 21/295 Quarry development at Windmillhill Rathcoole, Co.Dublin

Hi Enda,
Please see attached responses and dataset sheet for return to ABP.
Many thanks and regards,
Trish

From: GSI Planning
Sent: 06 August 2021 14:36

Cc: GSI Planning
Subject: EIS 21/295 Quarry development at Windmillhill Rathcoole, Co.Dublin

EIS 21/295

Quarry development at Windmillhill, Rathcoole, Co.Dublin.

Request for observations by An Bord Pleanála for return via the CSU Mailbox before Wednesday 18 August 2021.
Letter attached.

Previous ABP correspondence wrt quarry at
\\sgsihsm01\general access\EIS\To be reviewed\21 295 Quarry development at Windmillhill Rathcoole Co.Dublin\Background\201201 ABP outcome

Regards,
Trish

From: Appeals2 [<mailto:appeals@pleanala.ie>]
Sent: 06 August 2021 11:38
To: CorporateSupport.Unit
Subject: RE: Request for electronic copy of notice for ABP 310466-21

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organisation. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognise the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Enda,

Downloaded copies of the letters and the content of the CD included with these letter is on our website at the links below.

Regards,

Lita Clarke
Executive Officer
Appeals Processing Section
An Bord Pleanála
01 8737158

<https://www.pleanala.ie/en-ie/case/310466>

<https://www.pleanala.ie/en-ie/case/310461>

From: Bord <bord@pleanala.ie>
Sent: Friday 6 August 2021 08:53
To: Appeals2 <appeals@pleanala.ie>
Subject: FW: Request for electronic copy of notice for ABP 310466-21

From: CorporateSupport.Unit <CorporateSupport.Unit@decc.gov.ie>
Sent: Thursday 5 August 2021 17:43
To: Bord <bord@pleanala.ie>
Cc: CorporateSupport.Unit <CorporateSupport.Unit@decc.gov.ie>
Subject: Request for electronic copy of notice for ABP 310466-21

Good afternoon,

Corporate Support Unit received the attached hard copy correspondence in relation to a quarry development at Windmillhill, Rathcoole, Co.Dublin (ref : ABP-310466-21). The offices of the Department of Environment, Climate and Communications are still closed due to the Covid 19 pandemic restrictions and we are unable to access complete hard copy notices. Could you please forward an electronic copy of this notice to CorporateSupport.Unit@decc.gov.ie at your earliest convenience.

Thank you for your assistance.

Regards,
Enda Brady,
Corporate Support Unit.
087 623 7714

Enda Brady, Clerical Officer
Finance and Corporate Support Division

Roinn Cumarsáide, Gníomhaithe ar son na hAeráide & Comhshaoil
Department of Communications, Climate Action & Environment

Teach Leamháin, Bóthar Ghleann an Iarla, An Cabhán, H12 A8H7
Elm House, Earlsvale Road, Cavan, H12 A8H7

T +353 (0)1 6782308
CorporateSupport.Unit@dccae.gov.ie www.dccae.gov.ie

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Tá eolas sa teachtaireacht leictreonach seo (agus b'fhéidir sa chomhaid ceangailte leis) a d'fhéadfadh bheith príobháideach nó faoi rún. Is le h-aghaidh an duine/na ndaoine nó le h-aghaidh an aonáin atá ainmnithe thuas agus le haghaidh an duine/na ndaoine sin amháin atá an t-eolas. Murab ionann tusa agus an té a bhfuil an teachtaireacht ceaptha dó bíodh a fhios agat nach gceadaítear nochtadh, cóipeáil, scaipeadh nó úsáid an eolais agus/nó an chomhaid seo. Más trí earráid a fuair tú an teachtaireacht leictreonach seo cuir, más é do thoil é, an té ar sheol an teachtaireacht ar an eolas láithreach. Deimhnítear leis seo freisin nár aims odh víreas sa phost seo tar éis a scanadh.

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An Bord Pleanála
64 Marlborough Street
Dublin 1

17 August 2021

Re: Quarry at Windmillhill Rathcoole, Co Dublin - planning application for further development

Your Ref: ABP-310466-21
Our Ref: 21/295b

Dear Sir/Madam,

Geological Survey Ireland is the national earth science agency and is a division of the Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications. We provide independent geological information and advice and gather various data for that purpose. Please see our [website](#) for data availability. Use of our data or maps should be attributed correctly to 'Geological Survey Ireland'.

With reference to your letter dated the 16 July 2021, concerning the planning application for further development at the quarry at Windmillhill Rathcoole, Co Dublin, Geological Survey Ireland would like to make the following observations and comments in relation to geoheritage and other more general aspects.

We are pleased to see use of our Bedrock, Quaternary, Subsoil, Groundwater Aquifer, Vulnerability, Recharge, Source Protection Zones, Historical Groundwater Flooding, Landslide Susceptibility, Geoheritage, Aggregate Potential and Historical Quarries maps and datasets within the EIAR, by Golder Associates Ireland Limited.

Geoheritage

Geological Survey Ireland is in partnership with the National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS, Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage), to identify and select important geological and geomorphological sites throughout the country for designation as geological NHAs (Natural Heritage Areas). This is addressed by the Geoheritage Programme of Geological Survey Ireland, under 16 different geological themes, in which the minimum number of scientifically significant sites that best represent the theme are rigorously selected by a panel of theme experts.

County Geological Sites (CGSs), as adopted under the National Heritage Plan, include additional sites that may also be of national importance, but which were not selected as the very best examples for NHA designation. All geological heritage sites identified by Geological Survey Ireland are categorised as CGS pending any further NHA designation by NPWS. CGSs are now routinely included in County Development Plans and in the GIS of planning departments, to ensure the recognition and appropriate protection of geological heritage within the planning system. CGSs can be viewed online under the Geological Heritage tab on the online [Map Viewer](#). The audit for South County Dublin was carried out in 2014.

The full report details can be found [here](#). **Our records show that there are no CGSs in the vicinity of the proposed quarry development.**

Geological Survey Ireland would request that the operator might assist our geological heritage goals with the following (and ideally this would be written into the restoration / closure plan) and be included as a condition of planning as deemed appropriate by the planning authority / ABP:

1. Allowing access to quarry faces by appropriate scientists (upon request and with due regards to Health and Safety requirements) during quarrying to check for interesting new stratigraphies / relationships as they might become exposed and to establish if the quarry site is worthy of recognition post extraction and through aftercare/restoration planning.



2. If deemed appropriate in (1) above, leaving a representative section of the quarry face at the end of the quarry life or inclusion of information panels to promote the geology to the public or develop tourism or educational resources if appropriate depending on the future use of the site. Natural exposures are few, or deeply weathered, this measure would permit on-going improvement of geological knowledge of the subsurface.

The Geoheritage Programme tries to promote a partnership between geological heritage and active quarrying, with such measures as those outlined in the 'Geological Heritage Guidelines for the Extractive Industry', which can be downloaded [here](#). This document, written in association with Irish Concrete Federation, acts as a comprehensive guide in the sustainable extraction of natural resources while preserving the geological heritage of Ireland.

Other Comments

We would encourage An Bord Pleanála to use our online datasets that may be of use in assessing planning applications and for assessing Environmental Assessment Impact Reports (EIAR). Further information on our Geoheritage, Bedrock, Subsoils, Groundwater, Landslide Susceptibility and Minerals datasets can be found on the online [Map Viewer](#). Please find attached a list of our current publicly available data sets that should be considered where appropriate.

I hope that these comments are of assistance, and if we can be of any further help, please do not hesitate to contact me Clare Glanville, or my colleague Trish Smullen at GSIPlanning@gsi.ie.

Yours sincerely,

Clare Glanville
Senior Geologist
Geological Survey Ireland

Enc: Table - Geological Survey Ireland's Publicly Available Datasets Relevant to Planning, EIA and SEA processes.