

## Mary Tucker

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**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  
**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed

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**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](mailto:CorporateSupport.Unit@decc.gov.ie) at your earliest convenience.

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

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**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:** CorporateSupport.Unit <[CorporateSupport.Unit@decc.gov.ie](mailto:CorporateSupport.Unit@decc.gov.ie)>  
**Sent:** Thursday 5 August 2021 17:43  
**To:** Bord <[bord@pleanala.ie](mailto:bord@pleanala.ie)>  
**Cc:** CorporateSupport.Unit <[CorporateSupport.Unit@decc.gov.ie](mailto: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](mailto:CorporateSupport.Unit@decc.gov.ie) at your earliest convenience.

Thank you for your assistance.

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

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Enda Brady, Clerical Officer  
Finance and Corporate Support Division

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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*

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T +353 (0)1 6782308  
[CorporateSupport.Unit@dccae.gov.ie](mailto:CorporateSupport.Unit@dccae.gov.ie) [www.dccae.gov.ie](http://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.

Disclaimer:



An Bord Pleanála  
64 Marlborough Street  
Dublin 1

17 August 2021

**Re: Quarry development at Windmillhill Rathcoole, Co.Dublin - application for substitute consent**

**Your Ref: ABP-310461-21**

**Our Ref: 21/295a**

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 application for substitute consent for the quarry development 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 Remedial EIAR (rEIAR), 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 quarry development.**

#### **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.

**Geological Survey Ireland's Publicly Available Datasets Relevant to Planning, EIA and SEA processes**  
following European Union (Planning and Development) (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2018  
(S.I. No. 296 of 2018)

Geological Survey Ireland Programme	Dataset	Relevant EIA Topic	Coverage	Description / Notes	Link to Geological Survey Ireland map viewer
Geohazards	Landslide: National landslide database and landslide susceptibility map	Land & Soil/Climatic/Landscape	National	Associated guidance documentation relating to the National Landslide Susceptibility Map is also available. <b>Provides information of historic flooding, both surface water and groundwater. (A lack of flooding presented in any specific location of the map only indicates that a flood has not been detected. It does not indicate that a flood cannot occur in that location at present or in the future)</b>	<a href="https://dceur.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=66c8c7e48904465981950699c9625c">https://dceur.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=66c8c7e48904465981950699c9625c</a>
Geohazards	Groundwater Flooding (Historic)	Water	Regional	Provides information on the probability of future karst groundwater flooding (where available). [The maps do not, and are not intended to, constitute advice. Professional or specialist advice should be sought before taking, or refraining from, any action on the basis of the flood maps]	<a href="https://dceur.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=84818c8579945b60805529c735b1cc">https://dceur.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=84818c8579945b60805529c735b1cc</a>
Geohazards	Groundwater Flooding (Predictive)	Water	Regional		<a href="https://www.epa.ie/relations/radommap/">https://www.epa.ie/relations/radommap/</a>
Geohazards	Ration Map	Land & Soils/Air	National		<a href="https://dceur.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=76a202301594687ab14629a10b748ef">https://dceur.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=76a202301594687ab14629a10b748ef</a>
Geohazards	County Geological Sites as adopted by National Heritage Plan and listed in County Development Plans	Land & Soils/Landscape	Regional	All geological heritage sites identified by Geological Survey Ireland are categorised as CGS pending a further NHA designation by NPWS.	<a href="https://dceur.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=76a202301594687ab14629a10b748ef">https://dceur.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=76a202301594687ab14629a10b748ef</a>
Geohazards	Bedrock geology	Land & Soils	National	1:100,000 scale and associated memoirs.	<a href="https://dceur.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=76a202301594687ab14629a10b748ef">https://dceur.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=76a202301594687ab14629a10b748ef</a>
Geohazards	Bedrock geology	Land & Soils	Regional	1:50,000 scale	<a href="https://dceur.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=76a202301594687ab14629a10b748ef">https://dceur.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=76a202301594687ab14629a10b748ef</a>
Geohazards	Quaternary geology: Sediments	Land & Soils	National	1:50,000 scale	<a href="https://dceur.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=76a202301594687ab14629a10b748ef">https://dceur.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=76a202301594687ab14629a10b748ef</a>
Geohazards	Quaternary geology: Geomorphology	Land & Soils	National	1:50,000 scale	<a href="https://dceur.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=76a202301594687ab14629a10b748ef">https://dceur.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=76a202301594687ab14629a10b748ef</a>
Geohazards	Physiographic units	Land & Soils	National	Broad-scale physical landscape units mapped at 1:100,000 scale in order to be represented as a cartographic digital map at 1:250,000 scale	<a href="https://dceur.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=76a202301594687ab14629a10b748ef">https://dceur.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=76a202301594687ab14629a10b748ef</a>
Geohazards	GeoUrban: Spatial geological data for the greater Dublin and Cork areas	Land & Soils	Regional	includes 3D models	<a href="https://dceur.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=76a202301594687ab14629a10b748ef">https://dceur.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=76a202301594687ab14629a10b748ef</a>
Geohazards	Geotechnical Database	Land & Soils	National	Digital geotechnical and S&E Investigation Reports and boreholes which can be accessed through online downloads	<a href="https://dceur.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=76a202301594687ab14629a10b748ef">https://dceur.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=76a202301594687ab14629a10b748ef</a>
Goldmine	Historical data sets including geological memoirs and 0" to 1 mile geological mapping records	Land & Soils/Water	National	available online	<a href="https://secure.dcea.gov.ie/goldmine/index.html">https://secure.dcea.gov.ie/goldmine/index.html</a>
Groundwater & Geothermal	Groundwater resources (aquifers)	Water	National	Data limited to 1:40,000 scale; sites should be investigated at local scale	<a href="https://dceur.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=76a202301594687ab14629a10b748ef">https://dceur.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=76a202301594687ab14629a10b748ef</a>
Groundwater & Geothermal	Groundwater recharge	Water	National	Data limited to 1:40,000 scale; sites should be investigated at local scale; long term annual average recharge	<a href="https://dceur.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=76a202301594687ab14629a10b748ef">https://dceur.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=76a202301594687ab14629a10b748ef</a>
Groundwater & Geothermal	Groundwater vulnerability	Water	National	Data limited to 1:40,000 scale; sites should be investigated at local scale	<a href="https://dceur.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=76a202301594687ab14629a10b748ef">https://dceur.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=76a202301594687ab14629a10b748ef</a>
Groundwater & Geothermal	Group scheme and public supply source protection areas	Water	National	Not all PWS / GWS have SPZ / ZOC. Check with W / C or / NFGWS for private supplies.	<a href="https://dceur.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=76a202301594687ab14629a10b748ef">https://dceur.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=76a202301594687ab14629a10b748ef</a>
Groundwater & Geothermal	Groundwater Protection Schemes	Water	National	Data is limited to scale of 1:40,000. Data does not include all of the source protection areas	<a href="https://dceur.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=76a202301594687ab14629a10b748ef">https://dceur.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=76a202301594687ab14629a10b748ef</a>
Groundwater & Geothermal	Catchment and WFD management units.	Water	National	For areas underlain by limestone, includes karst features, tracer test databases, through water levels (groundwater)	<a href="https://dceur.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=76a202301594687ab14629a10b748ef">https://dceur.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=76a202301594687ab14629a10b748ef</a>
Groundwater & Geothermal	karst specific data layers	Water	National	Not comprehensive, there may be unrecorded wells and springs	<a href="https://dceur.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=76a202301594687ab14629a10b748ef">https://dceur.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=76a202301594687ab14629a10b748ef</a>
Groundwater & Geothermal	Wells and Springs	Water	National	Not exhaustive, only those in designated SACs could be other GWDTES; for more information contact EPA / EPA / site investigations	<a href="https://www.gsi.ie/en-IE/programmes-and-projects/groundwater-and-geothermal-unity/activities/understanding-ireland-groundwater-bodies.aspx">https://www.gsi.ie/en-IE/programmes-and-projects/groundwater-and-geothermal-unity/activities/understanding-ireland-groundwater-bodies.aspx</a>
Groundwater & Geothermal	Groundwater body Descriptions	Water	National	Also, roadmap for a policy and regulatory framework for Geothermal Energy, November 2020	<a href="https://dceur.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=9e4e46e06d4c1278509a91d60c09b9">https://dceur.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=9e4e46e06d4c1278509a91d60c09b9</a>
Groundwater & Geothermal	Geothermal Suitability maps	Land & Soils/Water	National		<a href="https://secure.dcea.gov.ie/GSI/INFOMAR_VIEWER/">https://secure.dcea.gov.ie/GSI/INFOMAR_VIEWER/</a>
Marine & Coastal Unit	INFOMAR - Ireland's national marine mapping programme; providing key baseline data for Ireland's	Water	National		<a href="https://www.gsi.ie/en-IE/programmes-and-projects/marine-and-coastal-unit/projects/Pages/Coastal-Vulnerability-index.aspx">https://www.gsi.ie/en-IE/programmes-and-projects/marine-and-coastal-unit/projects/Pages/Coastal-Vulnerability-index.aspx</a>
Marine & Coastal Unit	CHERISH - Coastal change project (Climate, Heritage and Environments of Reefs, Islands, and Headlands)	Water	Regional	Currently the project is being carried out on the east coast and will be rolled out nationally	<a href="https://dceur.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=76a202301594687ab14629a10b748ef">https://dceur.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=76a202301594687ab14629a10b748ef</a>
Marine & Coastal Unit	Coastal Vulnerability Index (CVI)	Water / Land & Soils	Regional	Consideration of mineral resources and potential resources as a mineral asset which should be explicitly recognised within the environmental assessment process	<a href="https://dceur.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=76a202301594687ab14629a10b748ef">https://dceur.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=76a202301594687ab14629a10b748ef</a>
Minerals	Aggregate potential	Land & Soils/Material Assets	National		<a href="https://dceur.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=76a202301594687ab14629a10b748ef">https://dceur.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=76a202301594687ab14629a10b748ef</a>
Minerals	Active quarries	Land & Soils	National		<a href="https://dceur.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=76a202301594687ab14629a10b748ef">https://dceur.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=76a202301594687ab14629a10b748ef</a>
Minerals	Historic mines	Land & Soils/Cultural Heritage	National	Inventory and Risk Classification 2009. Environmental Protection Agency, Economic Minerals Division and Geological Survey Ireland (DECC).	<a href="https://www.epa.ie/relations/radommap/">https://www.epa.ie/relations/radommap/</a>
Telluric	Albionne geophysical data for shallow soil, stream sediment and stream water	Land & Soils	Regional	A national mapping programme	<a href="https://dceur.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=76a202301594687ab14629a10b748ef">https://dceur.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=76a202301594687ab14629a10b748ef</a>
Telluric	Albionne geophysical data including radiometrics, electromagnetics and magnetics	Land & Soils	Regional	A national mapping programme	<a href="https://dceur.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=76a202301594687ab14629a10b748ef">https://dceur.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=76a202301594687ab14629a10b748ef</a>
Telluric	urban geochemistry mapping (Dublin SURGE project)	Land & Soils	Regional		<a href="https://dceur.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=76a202301594687ab14629a10b748ef">https://dceur.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=76a202301594687ab14629a10b748ef</a>

Notes:  
1. The maps and data listed above are available on the Geological Survey Ireland map viewer <https://www.gsi.ie/map-ile/data-and-maps/default.aspx>  
2. Please read all disclaimers carefully when using Geological Survey Ireland data.  
3. Geological Survey Ireland and Irish Concrete Federation published guidelines for the treatment of geological heritage in the extractive industry in 2008.