



Ms Fiona Marshall
Secretary to the Aarhus Convention Compliance Committee
United Nations Economic Commission for Europe
Palais des Nations, Room 429-4
CH-1211 GENEVA 10
Switzerland

14th August 2019

Re: Communication ACCC/C/2013/107

Dear Ms Marshall

1. We refer to your email dated 3rd July 2019 attaching the draft findings of the Aarhus Convention Compliance Committee (“the Committee”) agreed on 26th June 2019. Ireland responds as follows.
2. Communication ACCC/C/2013/107 concerns compliance by Ireland with the provisions of the Convention on public participation in decision-making in relation to the extension of the duration of 3 planning permissions for a quarry, under S.42 of the Planning and Development Act 2000.
3. Article 6(10)
Ireland notes the draft findings of the Committee regarding compliance with Article 6(10).
4. Article 7
Ireland welcomes the draft findings of the Committee that the permits in question have not been demonstrated to be plans or programmes under Article 7 of the Convention.
5. We do not raise any objections to the Committee making a recommendation in accordance with paragraph 36(b) of the annex to Decision I/7.



6. Correction to paragraphs 32 and 74

In its draft findings of 26th June 2019, the Committee states at paragraphs 32 and 74 on several occasions that the 2009 application (TA/900976) extended the quarry by 4.274 hectares. Whilst we do not consider this affects the Committee's conclusions, and noting that the size of the extension has not at any time been in dispute, Ireland observes that these statements are incorrect and requests that the findings be amended to reflect the correct figures. As we have previously clarified¹ to the Committee, the planning application – including the area of the extension - covered a total site area of 4.274 hectares. The 2009 application for an extension (TA/900976) sought to extend the extraction area by 2.85 hectares.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Aoife Joyce".

Aoife Joyce

National Focal Point Ireland- Aarhus

¹ See Aoife Joyce, 'Reply to Committee's Request for Clarification', Department of Communication, Climate Action and Environment (31st May 2019).