

EIR Request (received 05 September 2025) - Reference: DFI/2025-0424

I am writing to request information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and the Environmental Information Regulations 2004.

I seek disclosure of all information held by the Department of Infrastructure regarding when the Department first became aware of Dalradian Gold Limited (DLRG)'s intentions to commercially mine for tellurium at the Curraghinalt project, County Tyrone.

Specifically, I request:

1. The earliest date on which the Department (or its officials, advisors, or representatives) became aware that Dalradian Gold Limited intended to commercially exploit tellurium, either as a primary or by-product mineral.
2. Copies of any correspondence, meeting notes, internal memos, or briefing papers in which tellurium was mentioned in connection with Dalradian Gold Limited's mining project.
3. Any internal assessments, risk appraisals, or advice provided to Ministers or senior officials concerning the inclusion of tellurium in the project.
4. Details of any communications with Dalradian Gold Limited, consultants, or other government departments (including the Department for the Economy and NIEA) which reference tellurium in relation to the Curraghinalt mine.

Response (issued 01 October 2025)

Environmental Information Regulations 2004 - Dalradian gold mine planning application and extraction of tellurium and other critical minerals.

I refer to your request received by this Department on 5 September 2025 in which you request information held in connection with the Dalradian gold mine planning application and the exploitation of tellurium under the Environmental Information Regulations 2004 and therefore the response to the request is made in the context of the planning application only.

Your information request is listed and numbered under the following headings:

1. *The earliest date on which the Department (or its officials, advisors, or representatives) became aware that Dalradian Gold Limited intended to commercially exploit tellurium, either as a primary or by-product mineral.*

2. *Copies of any correspondence, meeting notes, internal memos, or briefing papers in which tellurium was mentioned in connection with Dalradian Gold Limited's mining project.*
3. *Any internal assessments, risk appraisals, or advice provided to Ministers or senior officials concerning the inclusion of tellurium in the project.*
4. *Details of any communications with Dalradian Gold Limited, consultants, or other government departments (including the Department for the Economy and NIEA) which reference tellurium in relation to the Curraghinalt mine.*

In relation to point 1 of your request, there are no specific records held by the Department that indicate tellurium was to be extracted prior to becoming aware of the applicant's intention to do so, which was made known through the applicant's Statement of Case received on 25 October 2025. This document is publicly available.

With regards to points 2, 3 and 4, the Department does not hold information specific to your request.

Copyright notice

The supply of information under the Freedom of Information Act or the Environmental Information Regulations does not give the recipient or organisation that receives it the automatic right to reuse it in any way that would infringe copyright. Information supplied continues to be protected by copyright. You are free to use it for your own purposes, including for private study and non-commercial research, and for any other purpose authorised by an exception in current copyright law. Documents (except photographs) can also be used in the UK without requiring permission for the purposes of news reporting. Any other re-use, for example commercial publication, would require the permission of the copyright holder.

Most documents provided by a government department or agency will be protected by Crown Copyright. Most Crown Copyright information can be re-used under the [Open Government Licence](#). For information about the OGL and about re-using Crown Copyright information, please see [The National Archives website](#).

Copyright in other documents may rest with a third party. For information about obtaining permission from a third party please see the [Intellectual Property Office's website](#).