



18th November 2010

Mr. John McEntagart
Office of Climate, Licensing & Resource Use
Environmental Protection Agency
Regional Inspectorate
McCumiskey House
Richview
Clonskeagh Road
Dublin 14

Our Ref: 1182 Westland Horticulture
Your Ref: P0914-01
**Re: Article 11 Request for Further Information in support of Application
for IPPC Licence (21.September. 2010)**

Dear John,

Further to our meeting of November 16th regarding the above application for an IPPC License by Westland Horticulture Limited in respect of peat harvesting operations Co. Westmeath (Reg. No. P0914-01), we wish to request an extension to the eight week period within which a response to the above request is submitted.

As discussed during our meeting, the request to extend the time frame for submission of the requested information is based on our timeframe for completing the Appropriate Assessment required by Section L 1. of the Article 11 request.

In order to address the informational requirements of that request, Westland has appointed OES Consulting to undertake an Appropriate Assessment.

Site work relating to the assessment has commenced and a range of water quality monitoring points have been established and monitored. In addition, GIS mapping of site features, monitoring locations and other points relevant to the license has commenced.

The timescale for completing this work is of the order of six weeks. However, as consultation with both the Fisheries Board and the National Parks and Wildlife Service will be undertaken, it may be necessary to revisit this timescale in order to ensure that responses have been received and taken account of in the Appropriate Assessment.



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It is noted that Westland Horticulture have in addition, scheduled a meeting with Westmeath Co. Council for Monday 22nd November to discuss the planning status of the site.

The purpose of that meeting will be to deal with the query raised in Section B 5 of the information request regarding written confirmation of the planning status of the site and of the requirement for an EIS.

It is understood that the current Westland operation is exempt from planning permission under the 2001 Planning and Development Regulations. The situation with respect to the 2010 Planning and Development Amendment Act is as yet unclear.

Westland will make every effort to obtain confirmation from the Local Authority regarding the planning status of the site within the extended timeframe.

Given the objective of compiling a comprehensive submission on all of the items requested in the Article 11 request, including a comprehensive Natura Impact Assessment in order to facilitate the Appropriate Assessment, Westland request an extension until January 17 next to submit the requested information.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any queries in respect of the above.

Kind Regards

Yours sincerely



Peadar O'Loughlin
Managing Director

CC Mark Hamill, Quality Systems Manager, Westland Horticulture Limited

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