



**An Roinn Cumarsáide, Fuinnimh agus Acmhainní Nádirtha.  
Department of Communications, Energy and Natural Resources.**

09/11/2007

Mr Paul Farrell  
The Phoenix Magazine  
44 Lower Baggot Street  
Dublin 2

FOI/0075/2007

Dear Mr Farrell,

I refer to the request you have made under the Freedom of Information Act for access to records held by this Department in connection with copies of correspondence addressed to the Minister's Office relating to the decision to introduce a new licensing round from exploration in the Porcupine Basin incorporating a new profit resource rent tax.

No such correspondence exists. Your request, therefore, has been refused under section 10 (1) (a) of the Freedom of Information Act 1997, as amended.

I wish to advise you that, if for any reason you are not satisfied with the outcome of your request, you are entitled to seek a review of the case by appealing the decision to this Department's FOI Unit. To appeal, you need to write to Mr. Frank O'Brien, FOI Unit, Department of Communications, Energy & Natural Resources, Elm House, Earlsvale Road, Cavan. You must make your appeal within 4 weeks of the date of this letter, but the making of a late appeal may be permitted in appropriate circumstances. The appeal will involve a complete reconsideration of the matter by a more senior member of the staff of this Department.

Please note that an application fee for an appeal is currently €75.00 and a reduced fee of €25.00 applies if you are covered by a Medical Card.

If claiming a reduced application fee, the request must also be accompanied by

- The Medical Card registration number
- The name of the issuing Health Board
- Your consent to the verification of these details with that Health Board.

Payment should be made by way of bank draft, money postal order, or personal cheque made payable to "The Department of Communications, Energy & Natural Resources".

On receipt of the fee, an acknowledgement letter will be sent to you outlining details of when you can expect a decision on your appeal, and the contact details of the person handling the appeal.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Des Byrne". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above a solid horizontal line.

Des Byrne

Petroleum Affairs Division

PH: (01)6782693



Department of Communications, Energy and Natural Resources  
Roinn Cumarsáide, Fuinnimh agus Acmhainní Nádurtha

23/10/2007

Mr Paul Farrell  
The Phoenix Magazine  
44 Lower Baggot Street  
Dublin 2

FOI/0075/2007

Dear Mr. Farrell,

I refer to the Freedom of Information request received in this office on 22/10/2007 along with the associated fee.

The officer handling your request will be Mr. Des Byrne, Petroleum Affairs Division, Department of Communications, Energy & Natural Resources, Leeson Lane, Dublin 2. He can be contacted at 01 6782693.

A final decision on your request will normally be sent to you within 4 weeks of receipt of your request. This means that you can expect to receive your decision by the 20/11/2007.

If you have not heard from us when the time allocated has expired, you are automatically entitled to appeal to the Department for a review of the matter. This review proceeds on the legal basis that the initial request is considered to be refused once the specified time for responding to it has expired.

You should also be aware that you are entitled to a review of the decision if your request is refused, or if you are for any reason dissatisfied with the outcome of your request. The review is a full and new examination of the matter carried out by a more senior member of staff of this Department. In the event that you need to make an appeal, you can do so by writing to Mr. Frank O'Brien, FOI Unit, Department of Communications, Energy & Natural Resources, Elm House, Earlsvale Road, Cavan. Please note that there is a charge for all appeals of FOI requests. This charge is currently €75.00. A reduced fee of €25.00 applies if you are the holder of a Medical Card.

Please note that the Department of Communications, Energy & Natural Resources has a policy of posting a summary of your request, your name and address and the subsequent reply on the Department's website for reference purposes.

Yours sincerely,

Seána McGearty  
FOI Unit  
PH: 01 6782902

# PHOENIX

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Freedom of Information Unit  
Department of the Communications, Energy and Natural Resources  
Elm House  
Earlsvale Road  
Cavan  
Co Cavan



October 18, 2007

Dear sir/madam

Under the Freedom of Information Act, I would like to request copies of correspondence addressed to the Minister's Office relating to the decision to introduce a new licensing round for exploration in the Porcupine Basin incorporating the new profit resource rent tax. I am interested in submissions on this subject to the Minister's Office from commercial entities and other non-Government third parties.

I enclose a cheque for €15.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Many thanks.



Paul Farrell