



EUROPEAN COMMISSION  
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL  
ENVIRONMENT  
Directorate D – Biodiversity  
ENV.D.1 – Land Use & Management

Brussels  
ENV. D.1

Mr. Tony Lowes

*Sent by email only:*  
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**Subject: Your application for access to documents – EASE 2022/7067**

Dear Sir,

We refer to your email of 6 December 2022 in which you make a request for access to documents.

Your request concerns “*correspondence from (DG ENV) from 1 January 2022 to date about forestry to the Irish government or its authorities and to any other Commission services (DGs) or parties.*”

We have identified the following document of DG ENV which falls under your request:

- Ares(2022)8055229\_20221118 Letter Irish afforestation

A complete disclosure of the identified document is prevented by the exception concerning the protection of privacy and the integrity of the individual outlined in Article 4(1)(b) of Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001, because it contains the following personal data: the names/initials and contact details of other natural persons.

Article 9(1)(b) of the Data Protection Regulation does not allow the transmission of these personal data, except if you prove that it is necessary to have the data transmitted to you for a specific purpose in the public interest and where there is no reason to assume that the legitimate interests of the data subject might be prejudiced. In your request, you do not express any particular interest to have access to these personal data nor do you put forward any arguments to establish the necessity to have the data transmitted for a specific purpose in the public interest.

Consequently, I conclude that, pursuant to Article 4(1)(b) of Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001, access cannot be granted to the personal data contained in the requested document, as the need to

obtain access thereto for a purpose in the public interest has not been substantiated and there is no reason to think that the legitimate interests of the individuals concerned would not be prejudiced by disclosure of the personal data concerned.

Should you disagree with this position, you are entitled, in accordance with Article 7(2) of Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001, to submit a confirmatory application requesting the Commission to review this position.

Such a confirmatory application should be addressed within 15 working days upon receipt of this letter to the Secretariat-General of the Commission at the following address:

European Commission  
Secretariat-General  
Unit C.1. 'Transparency, Document Management and Access to Documents'  
BERL 7/076  
B-1049 Brussels,  
or by email to: [sg-acc-doc@ec.europa.eu](mailto:sg-acc-doc@ec.europa.eu).

Yours faithfully,

Ion CODESCU  
Head of Unit

Enclosure: 1 document.