

**Northern Ireland Environment Agency**  
Resource Efficiency Division



Our reference: **DAERA/23-345**

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Regulation Unit  
Klondyke Building  
Gasworks Business Park  
Malone Lower  
Belfast  
BT7 2JA  
Tel: [REDACTED]  
Email: [Mobuoy.Project@daera-ni.gov.uk](mailto:Mobuoy.Project@daera-ni.gov.uk)

24 October 2023

Dear [REDACTED]

### **Environmental Information Regulations 2004**

I am writing to you in relation to your request for information received by the Department on 27 September 2023 that contained a range of questions regarding the operation / maintenance of the Mobuoy Site

I can advise that the Department has completed its search and can confirm that it holds the information you requested.

When requesting clarification on the weighting given to each of the 25 sub-criteria, based on the tables presenting specific queries for each 'waste' zone, we have interpreted your request as clarification on the quantitative metrics upon which each of the sub-criteria were assessed.

Potential remediation options for the Mobuoy site have been assessed following the guidance presented in Stage 2: Options Appraisal of Land Contamination Risk Management (LCRM), which provides the Regulatory framework for assessing and remediating contaminated sites. Detailed information on the LCRM methodology can be accessed at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/land-contamination-risk-management-lcrm/lcrm-stage-2-options-appraisal>.

A sustainable approach to remediation has been taken and LCRM signposts assessors to further detailed guidance on sustainability – SuRF-UK on the CL:AIRE website (<https://www.clare.co.uk/projects-and-initiatives/surf-uk>). The Remediation ***Sustainability at the heart of a living, working, active landscape valued by everyone.***

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Options Appraisal was carried out by the Integrated Consultancy Team (Tetra Tech) following this guidance and reference is made to this guidance within the Remediation Options Appraisal report which was also prepared by Tetra Tech.

To clarify, the assessment and scoring of each of the potential remediation options was carried out separately by a panel of three 'competent people' (as defined by LCRM: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/land-contamination-risk-management-lcrm/lcrm-before-you-start#competent>).

Each of the competent people were Tetra Tech employees who are remediation specialists. Each of the remediation specialists evaluated each of the potential remediation options against each of the sub-criteria used by applying their professional judgement which is supported by 'appropriate lines of evidence'. Appendix 1 of the guidance document 'Supplementary Report 2 of the SuRF-UK Framework: Selection of Indicators/Criteria for Use in Sustainability Assessment for Achieving Sustainable Remediation (July, 2020)' provides information on appropriate 'lines of evidence' that can be used to support qualitative comparison between remediation options.

Subsequent to the ICT remediation specialists carrying out their own individual assessment of each of the potential remediation options, the specialist panel then met to discuss their individual scores and agree on a 'moderated' score against each of the assessment sub-criteria for each potential remediation option. It is the moderated score that has been used to inform the Remediation Options Appraisal and copies of the moderated scoring spreadsheets are presented at Appendix C of the Remediation Options Appraisal Report, which is available at the following [link](#). In line with the 'Supplementary Report 2 of the SuRF-UK Framework', sensitivity analysis of the sustainability assessment was undertaken to review how variations in input data and assumptions influence the overall outcome of the assessment and to make sure that each change in input values do not significantly alter the outcome of the assessment.

If you require any clarification, believe that any part of your request has been overlooked, misunderstood or misinterpreted, please contact me in the first instance to see if it is a matter that can be resolved.

If you are unhappy with the manner in which your request for information has been handled or the decision to release/withhold information, you have the right to request a formal review by the Department. If you wish to do so, please contact The Review Section either by e-mailing [daera.informationmanager@daera-ni.gov.uk](mailto:daera.informationmanager@daera-ni.gov.uk) or by post at The Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs, Data Protection & Information Management Branch, Floor 2, Ballykelly House, 111 Ballykelly Road, Ballykelly, Limavady BT49 9HP, within two months from the date of this letter.

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If after such an internal review you are still unhappy with the response, you have the right to appeal to the Information Commissioner at Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, CHESHIRE SK9 5AF, who will undertake an independent review of the Department's decision.

Yours sincerely,



**Mobuoy Remediation Project**

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