

SITE VISIT REPORT

Purpose of Site Visit: Peat Extraction in Co. Kildare

Site Address: Ballinderry, Carbury, Co. Kildare

Date of Visit: 05/06/24

Times of Visit: 10.35am to 2.10pm

Visit Criteria: Peat extraction investigation

EPA Attendees: Kealan Reynolds and Simon Buckley

Organisation:

Summary: The purpose of the visit was to

i) Ascertain whether peat extraction activities were being carried out on lands at the above address in Ballinderry, Carbury, Co. Kildare (Appendix 1).

ii) To determine what activities and the location of the activities being undertaken were carried out.

Findings of site visit of 05/06/24: The following was noted during the visit:

- Aerial footage and photos were taken by EPA inspectors throughout the visit from off-site and on-site locations.
- Milled peat extraction was noted to be taking place at various locations on the peatland during the visit.
- Significant dust emissions were noted to be arising from the milled peat extraction activities.
- EPA Inspectors met with ______ (owner & operator) and advised him of the purpose of the visit. ______ informed the EPA Inspectors that they were working an area of less than 30 hectares and that included access roads, bagging and storage areas. ______ said that it was his intention to operate at <30ha for the foreseeable future.
- EPA Inspectors walked the peatlands and noted the areas of the peatland where milled peat extraction had recently taken place.
- Drainage works were noted to have been undertaken on the peatland and the water levels in the drains in some parts of the peatland were raised.
- Stockpiles of milled peat were noted adjacent to the bagging/processing plant and milled peat was being moved and processed from the stockpiles. The bagging plant was in operation during the inspection.
- Significant quantities of bagged material were stored at the site and some loads of material were being transported off-site during the insepction.

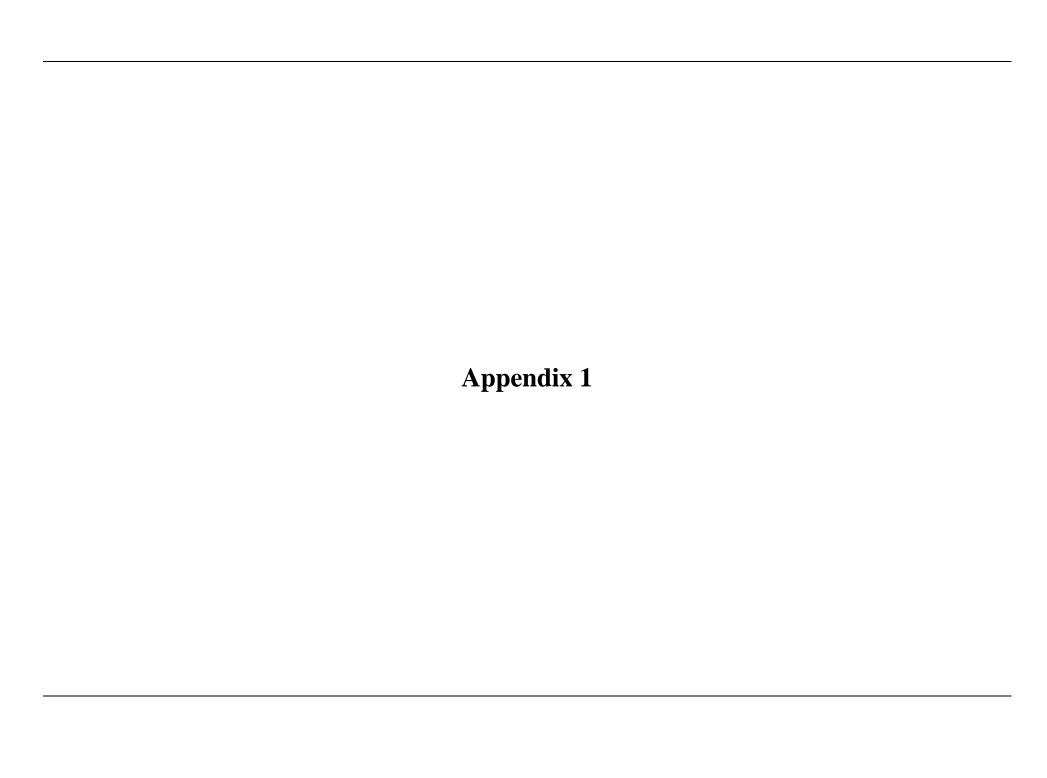
Report prepared by:

Kealan Reynolds

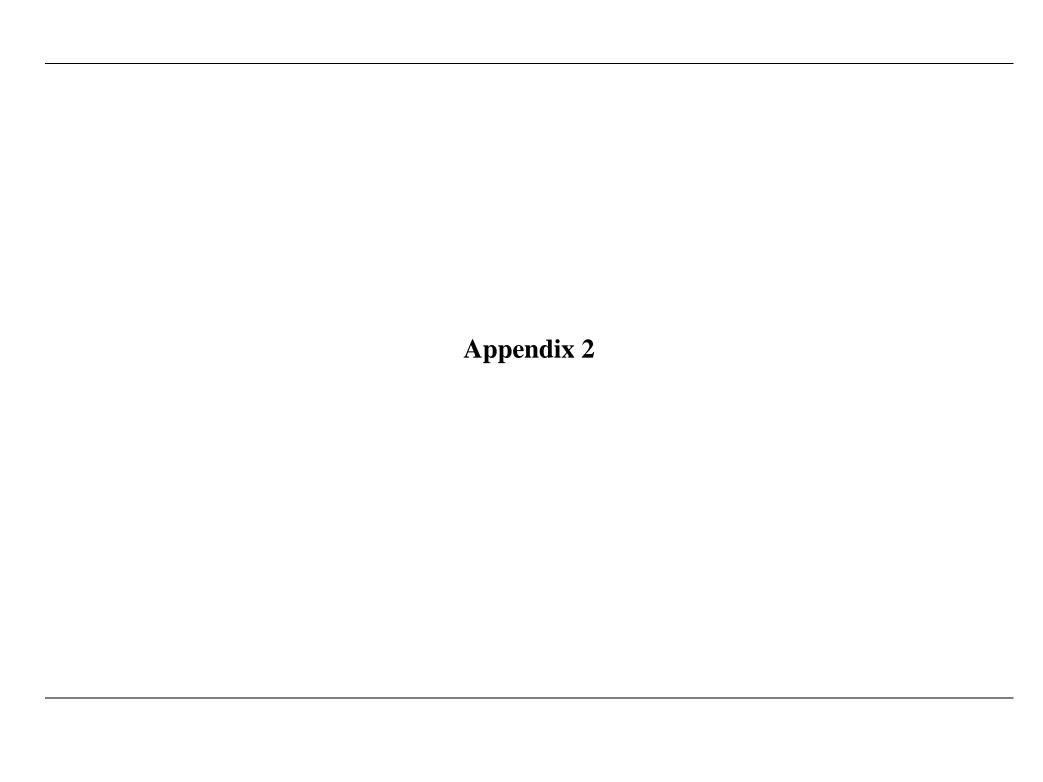
Signed:

Simon Buckley

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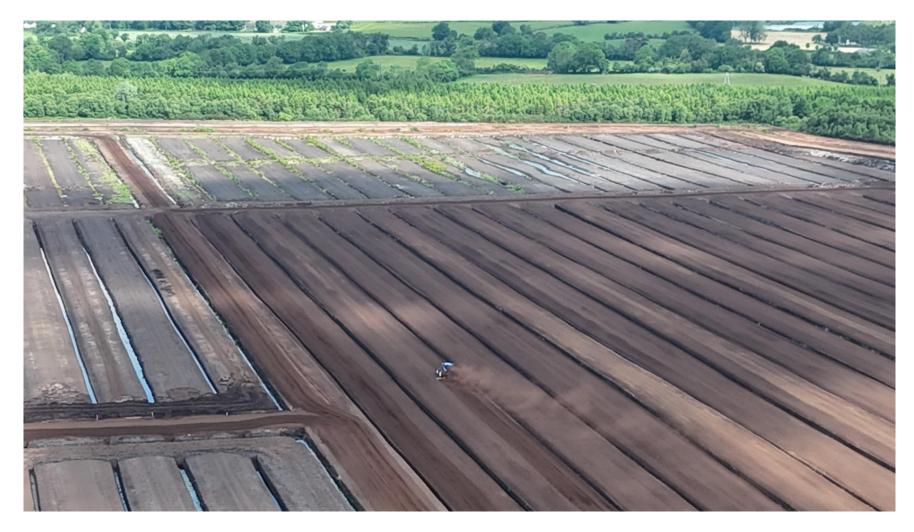


Photo 1: Milled peat extraction was noted to be taking place during the visit, note significant dust emissions arising.



Photo 2: Milled peat extraction was noted to be taking place during the visit.



Photo 3: Milled peat extraction was noted to be taking place during the visit.



Photo 4: Milled peat extraction was noted to be taking place during the visit.



Photo 5: Drainage works noted on the peatland.



Photo 6– Milled peat extraction activities were ongoing during the visit.



Photo 7– Photo of milled peat stockpiles adjacent to the bagging plant.