

FÓGRA POIBLÍ

Iarratais ar Cheadúnais Sirtheoireachta i nDún na nGall á dtarraingt siar

De bhreis ar Fhógra Poiblí an Aire Cumarsáide, Gníomhaithe ar son na hAeráide agus Comhshaoil (an tAire) den 16 Bealtaine 2019 maidir le "Fógra go bhfuiltear chun Ceadúnais Sirtheoireachta a dheonú" do Great Glen Resources Limited (an chuideachta), dearbhaíonn an tAire anois go bhfuil na hiarratais sin tarraingthe siar ag an gcuideachta.

Mar fhreagra ar cheisteanna a tarraingíodh anuas in aighneachtaí a fuair an Roinn le linn na tréimhse comhairliúcháin phoiblí maidir leis na ceadúnais seo, foilsíodh Nóta Eolais ar shuíomh gréasáin na Roinne (www.dccae.gov.ie) agus is féidir teacht air go díreach ag:

<https://www.dccae.gov.ie/en-ie/natural-resources/topics/Minerals-Exploration-Mining/statutory-notice/Pages/Statutory-Notices.aspx>

An Rannán Taiscéalaíochta agus Mianadóireachta
An Roinn Cumarsáide, Gníomhaithe ar son na hAeráide
agus Comhshaoil
29-31 Bóthar Adelaide
D02 X285
Ríomhphost: EMD.info@DCCAE.gov.ie

Tag: MA333/4

Dáta: 1 Lúnasa 2019

PUBLIC NOTICE

**Withdrawal of applications for Prospecting Licences
in Donegal**

Further to Public Notice of 16th May 2019 regarding the Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment's (the Minister) "Notice of Intention to grant Prospecting Licences" to Great Glen Resources Limited (the company), the Minister now confirms that these applications have been withdrawn by the company.

In response to issues raised in submissions received by the Department during the public consultation period for these licences an Information Note has been published on the Department website (www.dccae.gov.ie) and may be accessed directly at:

<https://www.dccae.gov.ie/en-ie/natural-resources/topics/Minerals-Exploration-Mining/statutory-notice/Pages/Statutory-Notices.aspx>

Exploration and Mining Division
Department of Communications,
Climate Action and Environment
29-31 Adelaide Road
D02 X285
Email: EMD.info@DCCAE.gov.ie

Ref:MA333/4

Date: 1 August 2019

Update in respect of application for Prospecting Licences (ref. MA 333/4)

The Prospecting Licence applications for the above areas, advertised in the Donegal Democrat on 16th May 2019 were withdrawn on 10th June 2019. In light of some of the concerns raised during the public consultation, it is important to make the following clarifications:

A Prospecting Licence relates to prospecting only and does not give the licence holder permission to mine.

The granting of Prospecting Licences is undertaken under the provisions of the Minerals Development Acts, 1940 to 1999 by the Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment. Under the Acts the Minister has the power to issue Prospecting Licences to search for certain minerals listed on the Licence.

Prospecting is generally temporary and non-intrusive in nature and involves minimal ground disturbance. It usually involves geological studies, geochemical surveys and geophysical surveying as well as desk based studies.

There are stringent assessments in accordance with various regulations that take into account all of the EU Environmental Directives.

Prospecting in National Parks is generally not permitted and there are various restrictions applied to protected sites such as Special Areas of Conservation (SAC) and Special Protection Areas (SPA).

Licensees are obliged to seek the landowner's permission before entering on any lands.

Licensees are liable under Section 10 of the Minerals Development Acts 1940 to 1999 to pay compensation should any damage to land, minerals, livestock or water supplies be caused by them while prospecting.

Extensive Public Consultation Provisions are required before granting Mining Licenses

Three separate State consents are required in order to mine and the process provides for extensive public consultation provisions: an Integrated Pollution Control Licence is required from the Environmental Protection Agency; Planning Permission is required from the Local Authority (including full environmental impact assessment); and a Mining Lease/Licence is required from the Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment.

An scéala is déanaí maidir le hiarratas ar Cheadúnais Sirtheoireachta (tag. MA 333/4)

Maidir leis na hiarratais ar Cheadúnas Sirtheoireachta do na limistéir thuas, a fógraíodh sa Donegal Democrat an 16 Bealtaine 2019, tarraingíodh siar iad an 10 Meitheamh 2019. I bhfianaise roinnt de na hábhair imní a tarraingíodh anuas le linn an chomhairliúcháin phoiblí, tá sé tábhachtach an soiléiriú seo a leanas a dhéanamh:

Ní bhaineann Ceadúnas Sirtheoireachta ach le sirtheoireacht agus ní thugann sé cead don sealbhóir mianadóireacht a dhéanamh.

Is é an tAire Cumarsáide, Gníomhaithe ar son na hAeráide agus Comhshaoil a dheonaíonn Ceadúnais Sirtheoireachta faoi fhorálacha na nAchtanna Forbartha Mianraí, 1940 go 1999. Tá sé de chumhacht ag an Aire faoi na hAchtanna Ceadúnais Sirtheoireachta a eisiúint chun mianraí áirithe atá liostaithe ar an gCeadúnas a chuardach.

Is iondúil go mbíonn an cuardach sealadach agus neamh-ionsáiteach agus go mbíonn an suaitheadh talún is lú i gceist leis. Bíonn staidéir gheolaíochta, suirbhéanna geoiceimiceacha agus suirbhéireacht gheoifisiceach i gceist chomh maith le staidéar deisce de ghnáth.

Bíonn measúnuithe diana i gceist de réir rialacháin éagsúla trína gcuirtear san áireamh Treoracha Comhshaoil uile an AE.

De ghnáth ní cheadaítear sirtheoireacht a dhéanamh i bPáirceanna Náisiúnta agus cuirtear srianta éagsúla i bhfeidhm i suíomhanna cosanta mar Limistéir Chaomhantais Speisialta (LCSanna) agus Limistéir faoi Chosaint Speisialta (LCSanna).

Tá sé de dhualgas ar cheadúnaithe cead úinéir na talún a lorg sula dtéann siad isteach ar aon tailte.

Bíonn ceadúnaithe faoi dhliteanas faoi Alt 10 de na hAchtanna Forbartha Mianraí 1940 go 1999 cúiteamh a íoc má dhéantar aon damáiste do thalamh, mianraí, beostoc nó soláthairtí uisce agus iad i mbun sirtheoireachta.

Bíonn sé riachtanach forálacha iomadúla ó thaobh Comhairliúcháin Phoiblí de a chomhlíonadh sula ndeonaítear Ceadúnais Mhianadóireachta.

Bíonn trí thoilíú ar leith ón Stát ag teastáil chun mianadóireacht a dhéanamh agus bíonn Forálacha iomadúla ó thaobh Comhairliúcháin Phoiblí i gceist sa phróiseas: bíonn Ceadúnas um Rialú Comhtháite ar Thruailliú ag teastáil ón nGníomhaireacht um Chaomhnú Comhshaoil; bíonn Cead Pleanála ag teastáil ón Údarás Áitiúil (lena n-áirítear measúnú iomlán ar thionchar timpeallachta); agus bíonn Léas/Ceadúnas Mianadóireachta ag teastáil ón Aire Cumarsáide, Gníomhaithe ar son na hAeráide agus Comhshaoil.