Dear FOI Officer,

Under section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act, I would like to seek access to the following records which I believe are held by the Mining Board which is under the remit of the Department of Communications, Energy and Natural Resources:

- minutes of all meetings of the Mining board in 2014 and 2015 including all attendees and dates of meetings
- a full breakdown of all salaries and expenses paid to each individual board member in 2014 and 2015
- a full breakdown of costs associated with any overseas trips or missions taken by any member(s) of the Mining Board (including but not limited to travel costs, accommodation costs, meal costs, other expenses)

My preferred form of access is electronic or whatever is most suitable for you.

I am happy to discuss any aspect of the above insofar as it would help to clarify anything or to make the process as efficient as possible.

Signed: ________________

[Seal of Corporate Support Unit FOI/AIE]

Department of Communications
Energy & Natural Resources

09 NOV 2015
10/11/2015

FOI Request Reference: FOI/2015/134

Dear

I refer to your request which was received by this office on 09/11/2015 which you have made under the Freedom of Information Act 2014 for records held by this FOI body. Your request sought:

1) Minutes of all meetings of the Mining board in 2014 and 2015 including all attendees and dates of meetings
2) A full breakdown of all salaries & expenses paid to each individual board member in 2014 and 2015
3) A full breakdown of costs associated with any overseas trips or missions taken by any member(s) of the Mining board (including but not limited to travel costs, accommodation costs, meal costs, other expenses).

The decision maker handling your request is Ms Teresa O’Halloran, Corporate Support Division, Department of Communications, Energy and Natural Resources, Elm House, Earlsvale Road, Cavan, H12 A8H7, Co Cavan and she can be contacted at 01 6782023. A final decision on your request would normally be sent to you within 4 weeks, where a week is defined as 5 working days excluding the weekend and public holidays. This means that you can expect a decision letter to issue not later than 07/12/2015.

There are some limited situations under the FOI Act which could mean that the period for a final decision may be longer than this 4 week period. If this occurs in the case of your request, you will be advised promptly in writing setting out the reason and the new decision date.

Should our final decision not reach you on time, please feel free to contact the decision maker named above to discuss any problems that may have arisen. If you have not heard from us once the allotted time has expired, you are automatically entitled to appeal 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. The review is a full and new examination of the matter carried out by a more senior member of staff.
In the event that you need to request such a review, you can do so by writing to FOI Unit, Department of Communications, Energy and Natural Resources, Elm House, Earlsvale Rd, Cavan, H12 A8H7, Co Cavan or alternatively by sending an e-mail to FOI.UNIT@dcenr.gov.ie. You should state that you are seeking this review because an initial decision was not sent to you within the time allowed for a response. In that event, you would normally have 4 weeks (after the initial decision should have been sent to you) in which to make the appeal. Consideration will be given to late applications in appropriate circumstances.

Please note this Department has a policy of posting a summary of all non-personal FOI Requests on our website.

Yours sincerely,

__________________________
Carmel Conaty
FOI Unit
17th November, 2015.

Re. FOI Request Reference Number FOI/2015/134

Dear

I refer to your request received 9th November 2015, under the Freedom of Information Act 2014, for records held by this Department namely:

1. minutes of all meetings of the Mining board in 2014 and 2015 including all attendees and dates of meetings
2. a full breakdown of all salaries and expenses paid to each individual board member in 2014 and 2015
3. a full breakdown of costs associated with any overseas trips or missions taken by any member(s) of the Mining Board (including but not limited to travel costs, accommodation costs, meal costs, other expenses)

I, Teresa O’Halloran, Higher Executive Officer, have made a final decision on 17th November 2015, to grant your request.

You sought access to the records by electronic means, and as such your reply is being presented to you in PDF document format. I consider this format to be an appropriate form of access and am enclosing a schedule detailing the records being released along with the record requested.

In the event that you are not happy with my decision, you may seek an Internal Review by writing to the Freedom of Information Unit, Department of Communications, Energy and Natural Resources, Elm House, Earlsvale Road, Cavan, Co. Cavan, H12 A8H7, or via e-mail to FOI.Unit@dcemr.gov.ie. You should make your appeal within 4 weeks (20 working days) from the date of this notification, where a day is defined as a working day excluding, the weekend and public holidays. (The making of a late appeal may be permitted in appropriate circumstances).

The Internal Review will involve a complete re-consideration of the matter by a more senior member of staff of the Department.

Please note that the application fee for an Internal Review is €30.00 and a reduced fee of €10.00 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.

**Method of Payment**

All payments should be made by way of Postal Order, Bank Draft or by Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) made payable to: Department of Communications, Energy and Natural Resources.

EFT payment will be accepted in accordance with the following protocol only:

- All payments to be made in Euro.
- The EFT advice notice can be sent via email to AccountsReceivable@dcenr.gov.ie or by post to Accounts Receivable, Department of Communications, Energy and Natural Resources, Elm House, Earlsvale Road, Cavan, Co. Cavan, H12 A8H7.

Please note that the Department cannot accept any responsibility for payments made into its account which cannot be identified due to lack of information.

*The Department's EFT Bank Details are as follows:*

**Bank Details:** Bank of Ireland, Main Street, Cavan.
**Account Name:** Department of Communications, Energy and Natural Resources, Accounts Receivable.

On receipt of the fee, you will be advised of the contact details of the person conducting the Internal Review as well as the date by which you can expect a decision.

Please note that the Department of Communications, Energy and Natural Resources has a policy of posting all non-personal FOI requests and replies on its website, and it is the case that you may find some of the requests referred to in the schedules at: [DCENR Published FOI Requests](#)

Yours sincerely,

Ms. Teresa O’Halloran,
Higher Executive Officer,
Corporate Support Unit.
Tel. 01-6782023
Email: Teresa.O’Halloran@dcenr.gov.ie
FOI Request Reference: FOI/2015/134

Schedule of Records

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Record No</th>
<th>Date of Record</th>
<th>Brief Description</th>
<th>No. of pages</th>
<th>Decision: Grant/Part Grant/Refuse</th>
<th>Section of FOI Act 2014</th>
<th>Record Edited/ Identify Deletions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>17/11/2015</td>
<td>1. minutes of all meetings of the Mining board in 2014 and 2015 including all attendees and dates of meetings&lt;br&gt;2. a full breakdown of all salaries and expenses paid to each individual board member in 2014 and 2015&lt;br&gt;3. a full breakdown of costs associated with any overseas trips or missions taken by any member(s) of the Mining Board (including but not limited to travel costs, accommodation costs, meal costs, other expenses)</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Grant</td>
<td>S.13</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
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</table>
Mining Board

Department of Communications, Energy and Natural Resources

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Minutes of all meetings of the Mining Board in 2014 and 2015 including all attendees and dates of meetings</th>
<th>A full breakdown of all salaries and expenses paid to each individual board member in 2014 and 2015</th>
<th>Full breakdown of costs associated with any overseas trips or missions taken by any member(s) of the Mining Board (including but not limited to travel costs, accommodation costs, meal costs, other expenses)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>None - no meetings held</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015 (to date)</td>
<td>None - no meetings held</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>