

28 August 2015

Economics and Planning Division
Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine
Agriculture House
Kildare St
Dublin 2

2025strategy@agriculture.gov.ie

Re: Environmental Analysis of Food Wise 2025

Dear sir/madam,

Please find attached the requested questionnaire, together with supplementary critique, in relation to the draft Environmental Analysis Report (incorporating a Strategic Environmental Assessment and an Appropriate Assessment) of the proposed Food Wise 2025 National Agri-Food strategy.

In summary, our considered view of the draft Environmental Analysis Report is that it is fundamentally flawed and unfit for purpose. It should be withdrawn and completely redone on a properly informed basis.

We further note that, in March 2015, An Taisce had already submitted a detailed response to the DAFM discussion document on the potential for Greenhouse Gas (GHG) mitigation within the Agriculture and Forestry sector. It appears that this submission was either not referenced by DAFM in briefing the consultants who prepared this Food Wise 2025 draft Environmental Analysis Report, or was not properly studied by them, or (worst of all) was simply ignored. In any case, we regard it as an abuse of the process of public consultation that a voluntary organisation such as An Taisce should invest many weeks (or months) of research effort for that then to be apparently discounted without even the appearance of substantive consideration in a directly relevant environmental analysis.

Yours sincerely,



Prof. Barry McMullin
(Chair of Climate Committee, An Taisce)

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