Our Ref: FoI/Req/2016/206 Brian O'Donovan RTÉ Newsroom, RTÉ, Donnybrook, Dublin 4

Dear Mr. O'Donovan,

I refer to the request of 8 December which you have made under the Freedom of Information Act 2014 for access to records held by this Department, as follows:

Records of all communications between the Department and Donald Trump and/or his representatives relating to the Taoiseach's recent trip to the US and any subsequent replies.

I wish to cover the timeframe 01/11/16 to present day.

I refer also to the acknowledgement of your request which was sent to you on 21 December 2016.

I am the responding officer for this request. Following a search of the Department's files, no records have been identified that fall within the scope of your request. In that light I am obliged to refuse your request under Section 15(1) (a) of the Act; the record does not exist or cannot be found after all reasonable steps to ascertain its whereabouts have been taken

Right of Appeal

Should you wish to appeal this decision, you may do so in writing to the Freedom of Information Unit, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, 76-78 Harcourt Street, Dublin 2 or by email to <u>foi@dfat.ie</u>. A fee applies for an appeal for access to non-personal information; the level of this fee has been set at €30. For methods of payment, please contact FOI Unit at <u>foi@dfat.ie</u>, or 01-4082857.

You should make your appeal within 4 weeks (20 working days) from the date of this notification. However, the making of a late appeal may be permitted in appropriate circumstances. The appeal will involve a complete reconsideration of the matter by a more senior member of the staff of this Department.

Yours sincerely

Jack McCormack,

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Assistant Director, U.S & Canada

Americas Unit

Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade