

Mr Ciarán McLoughlin  
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Department of Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation  
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Dear Ciarán,

**Re: Consultation on the exemption at Section 279 of the Companies Act 2014**

Davy Corporate Finance welcomes the opportunity to respond to the consultation by the Department of Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation on the time period provided for at Section 279 of the Companies Act 2014.

Section 279 provides that certain companies in specific circumstances may prepare and file financial statements using US Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (US GAAP). This exemption will cease to apply for financial years that end after December 2020.

A number of significant Irish-incorporated SEC-registered companies currently use US GAAP for financial reporting in lieu of International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS). US GAAP is accepted internationally as being a high quality financial reporting framework and US GAAP financial statements alone have been considered sufficient for Irish filing purposes for such companies.

Should the exemption not be extended, the obligation for such companies to prepare both US GAAP and IFRS financial statements would be unnecessarily burdensome and costly and would not deliver benefits to investors in these companies or other users of their financial statements.

An extension to the exemption will align Ireland with other European countries and will help maintain Ireland's attractiveness and competitiveness for international investment and job creation.



For these reasons, we believe that there should be a long term extension of 10 years to the current exemption provided for at Section 279 of the Companies Act 2014 to allow sufficient time for IFRS to be accepted by the US Securities and Exchange Commission for all SEC registrants or for US GAAP and IFRS to converge.

It is important that clarity and certainty on any extension is provided by the department at the earliest possible opportunity.

Yours sincerely,

  
**John Frain**  
**DIRECTOR**