

Postbus 20011 - 2500 EA Den Haag

Department of the Environment and Local Government Franchise Unit
Custom House
DUBLIN 1
Ireland

Onderwerp

Voting machines

Dear Sir / Madam,

Although we did not respond yet, we were pleased to receive your enquiry of 29 September, 1999 in which you asked us about electronic voting and counting at statutory elections.

Voting by machine is allowed only after the endorsement of the Minister of the Interior and Kingdom Relations. In 80% of the Dutch municipalities voting machines are being used at all statutory elections. The Powervote machine is used in many of the municipalities. Nedap also produces other types of voting machines which are also used in the Netherlands, but there are also other manufactorers who make voting machines.

The legal stipulations which are relevant are enclosed. Unfortunately these laws are only available in Dutch.

Please do not hesitate to contact us for more information.

We apologise for our late reply.

Yours sincerely,

C.A.R. de Beus

deputy secretary Electoral Council

Datum

31 januari 2000

Ons kenmerk SW2000/U53884

Onderdeel

DGCZK/Kiesraad

Inlichtingen mw. mr. C.A.R. de Beus

T (070) 426 6426 F (070) 426 6000

Uw kenmerk

Blad

1 van 1

Aantal bijlagen

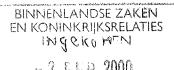
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29 September, 1999 deling: KR 2000 / 5 3084



Secretary General, Kiesraad/Ministry of the Interior, Postbus 20011, 2500EA's Gravenhage, The Netherlands.



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DEPARTMENT OF

THE ENVIRONMENT AND

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Dear Secretary General,

I am considering, at present, the question of introducing electronic voting and counting at statutory elections in Ireland. One of the voting machines which I am considering is the Powervote machine manufactured by Nedap of Groenlo, the Netherlands. The company informed me that the Powervote machine is used at all statutory elections in the Netherlands.I would appreciate it if you would confirm this matter and also if you could let me have a copy of the relevant legislation which permits the use of the voting machine. Another area that I am concerned with is independent assessment of the voting machine especially the computer software which is used for vote counting. As you may know, our election system is the PR/STV system which has more detailed and complicated counting rules than the straight 'list' systems. If you have had an independent assessment made of the Powervote machine, I would appreciate if it were possible for you to let me have any information on such an assessment.

I apologise that this letter if not in the Dutch language.

Yours sincerely.

Franchise Unit