

Environmental Information Regulations (EIR) request 12/1009

Thank you for your email of 4 July 2012, forwarding your email of 10 June which was not received by the Department. You have requested information on the following:

“May I please have from DECC the assumptions used in their modelling in relation to wind energy input and the resulting inefficiencies and increased emissions from the thermal plants on the grid?”

We have considered your request in accordance with the Environmental Information Regulations 2004 (the Regulations) as the information you have sought disclosure of, does in our view, fall within the definition of “environmental information” as stated in the Regulations. The disclosure of such information is governed by the Regulations and not by the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

The consultation report on the Renewable Energy Strategy (RES) 2009 provides details of the potential new capacity and generation from renewable and fossil fuel sources under high renewable energy scenarios. The study shows less fossil fuel generation overall under a higher renewables scenario, and therefore fewer carbon emissions. Modelling for the report takes account of the intermittency of the wind output. The Strategy can be downloaded from http://www.decc.gov.uk/assets/decc/what%20we%20do/uk%20energy%20supply/energy%20mix/renewable%20energy/renewable%20energy%20strategy/1_20090717120647_e_@@_theukrenewableenergystrategy2009.pdf

The supporting modelling report by Redpoint can be found at: http://www.decc.gov.uk/assets/decc/Consultations/Renewable%20Energy%20Strategy%20Consultation/Related%20documents/1_20090501131408_e_@@_EU2020TargetRenewableSupportSchemesv110.pdf.

If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to ask for an internal review. Internal review requests should be submitted within two months of the date of receipt of the response to your original letter and should be addressed to me at the above address.

Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications.

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner’s Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF.