

**Department of
Energy & Climate
Change**
3 Whitehall Place,
London SW1A 2AW
www.decc.gov.uk

Our ref. **12/0495**

24 April 2012

Re: Request for Searches of DECC's Records Management System

Thank you for your correspondence received by the Department of Energy & Climate Change (DECC) on 23 March 2012, in which you requested searches of the Department's record management system, using two different sets of terms.

We have considered your request in accordance with the Environmental Information Regulations 2004 (EIRs), as the information you have sought disclosure of does, in our view, fall within the definition of "environmental information" as stated in the EIRs.

DECC has the following obligations under the Environmental Information Regulations:

- to confirm whether the Department holds the information requested, and
- to provide that information (subject to any exemptions or exceptions which may apply).

We hope the following responses to your request are helpful and address it sufficiently.

1. *Please conduct three searches of your records management system for the terms*
 - a) "climategate",
 - b) "climate-gate"
 - c) "climate gate"

for the period beginning 01 November 2009 and running up to and including March 2012.

If you have a search function that allows you to run an 'approximate' query that would effectively assimilate all three terms into one search then you may do so. However I ask that you provide a short note on how you run an 'approximated' query on your database with reference to the user manual.

Please provide me with a copy of the search results, which includes all summary information as it appears in your records system. This might include, but not be limited to, date, title of document, description of document, author.

Each of the above three terms were used separately to search DECC's records management system (Matrix) by document title word, for the time period you specified.

The results of each search have been aggregated into the appended table, which gives the document number, document title and date registered for each document identified by the searches. The records management system does not have a document description field. Twenty nine documents in total were identified.

Personal data concerning some individuals has been redacted in accordance with Regulation 12(3) of the Environmental Information Regulations. Regulation 12(3) provides an absolute exemption for personal data which then falls to be dealt with under the Data Protection Act 1998. Personal data of third parties can only be disclosed in accordance with the data protection principles. In particular, the first data protection principle requires that disclosure must be fair and lawful and must comply with one of the conditions in Schedule 2 of the Data Protection Act. We consider that to disclose these individual names would contravene of one or more of those data protection principles. The definition of personal information to which Regulation 12(3) applies is wide and can include references to identifiable individuals. Our view is that the release of the names would not be fair and none of the conditions of Schedule 2 are met.

2. Please conduct a search of your records management system for the following terms for the period beginning November 2009 and March 2012:

- a) "University of East Anglia" and "email hack"*
- b) "UEA" and "email hack"*

Individual term searches were undertaken using the same search criteria as for 1, however, no documents were identified from the searches.

Appeal Procedure

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 the **Information Rights Unit (DECC Shared Service)** (foi@decc.gsi.gov.uk), Department for Business, Innovation & Skills, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET.

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

If you do request an internal review and are not content with its outcome, 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.

I hope this letter is of help to you.

Yours sincerely

Annex

Table 1. Documents Identified from a Title Word Search of the DECC Records Management System (Matrix), using 'climategate/climate-gate/climate gate' Search Terms

Document Number	Document Title	Date Registered
1 D10/883443	CCNet 2/10: Insurance Group Says Climategate Shows Risk In Accepting Climate Science	12/08/2010 at 14:55
2 D10/889578	CCNet 16: Climategate Scandal Risks Undermining Reputation, Integrity of Science	13/08/2010 at 12:18
3 D10/896784	CCNet: Climategate Hearing In The House of Commons	16/08/2010 at 11:38
4 D10/936941	CCNet 9/10: David King Admits He Dreamed Up Wild Speculations About Climategate	24/08/2010 at 15:01
5 D10/937930	FW: Letter for publication on 'climategate'	24/08/2010 at 15:40
6 D10/937938	FW: Letter for publication on 'climategate'	24/08/2010 at 15:40
7 D10/942867	Climategate Climate Change, Biological & Chemical Considerations	25/08/2010 at 11:53
8 D10/1061358	CCNet: U.S. Republicans Promise New Climategate Investigation	24/09/2010 at 15:05
9 D10/1251105	MEDIA MONITORING: Associated Press: 'Climategate' inquiry mostly vindicates scientists	02/11/2010 at 13:10
10 D10/1262475	CCNet: MPs Mull 'Climategate Enquiries' That Failed To Enquire	03/11/2010 at 16:24
11 D10/1262872	monitoring - Guardian - Montford lands some solid blows in review of 'climategate' inquiries	03/11/2010 at 16:39
12 D11/363356	2010-03-29 MC0167267 Climategate email - EU ETS operating costs.msg	08/02/2011 at 14:45
13 D11/563941	eCase - Txn: MC2011/02610 Title: Science & Sceptics : [REDACTED] (No Enquirer) -Climategate : Incoming Correspondence-14/02/11 Type: PDF	25/02/2011 at 14:46
14 D11/563959	eCase - Txn: MC2011/02610 Title: Science & Sceptics [REDACTED] -Climategate : Response-25/02/11 Type: PDF	25/02/2011 at 14:47
15 D11/563968	eCase - Txn: MC2011/02610 Title: Science & Sceptics [REDACTED]	25/02/2011 at 14:48

16	D11/563975	[REDACTED] -Climategate : Response-25/02/11 Type: MS Word Document eCase - Txn: MC2011/02610 Title: Science & Sceptics [REDACTED]	25/02/2011 at 14:48
17	D11/589042	[REDACTED] -Climategate : Response-25/02/11 Type: MS Word Document TRIM: CCNet: MPs Mull 'Climategate Enquiries' That Failed To Enquire	28/02/2011 at 14:18
18	D11/590478	TRIM: monitoring - Guardian - Montford lands some solid blows in review of 'climategate' inquiries	28/02/2011 at 14:34
19	D11/1152930	FoI 10 2462 Climategate Request 26 November 2010	03/06/2011 at 20:18
20	D11/1152931	FOI 10 2462 Climategate Reply to Whatdotheyknow	03/06/2011 at 20:18
21	D11/1535327	FoI Request 10/2462 - Climategate - Due 22 December	29/07/2011 at 14:46
22	D11/1548669	100408 FW Key dates for Climategate.rtf	01/08/2011 at 13:19
23	D11/1583325	Climategate Spin Doctor Arrested	05/08/2011 at 12:05
24	D11/1600984	FW: Climategate Spin Doctor Arrested	09/08/2011 at 13:33
25	D11/2119222	eCase - Txn: TO2011/22835 Title: International Energy & Climate Change : (No MP) [REDACTED] -Climategate 2 0 : Incoming Correspondence-28/11/11 Type: message/rfc822	15/12/2011 at 18:21
26	D11/2119225	eCase - Txn: TO2011/22835 Title: International Energy & Climate Change : (No MP) - (No Responding Minister) - Climategate 2 0 : Response-15/12/11 Type: MS Word Document	15/12/2011 at 18:22
27	D12/412526	Climate change or Climategate event - Bow Group: Briefing for Lord Marland: 7 March 2012	07/03/2012 at 15:23
28	D11/377994	eCase - Txn: TO2010/05072 Title: International Energy & Climate Change : (No MP) - [REDACTED] Satellite Gate : Incoming Correspondence-24/08/10 Type: Text	08/02/2011 at 22:04
29	D11/1918048	Climate Change Knowledge Bank Core Script Climate gate and IPCC errors L3	26/10/2011 at 16:02

Note

The document authors and the names of some individuals have been redacted under Reg12(3).