

Department of Energy & Climate Change
3 Whitehall Place,
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www.decc.gov.uk

Our ref: **12/1695**

19 December 2012

Re: Request for Information

Thank you for your email correspondence received by the Department of Energy & Climate Change (DECC) on 30 November 2012, in which you requested the following information:

If the targets set out by the minister this week are achieved over a period of 50 and 100 years by how much will the sea not rise and how much of the polar ice caps will not have melted.

Over the same period how many people will die of the cold because of the continual rise in energy prices.

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 EIRs:

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

As UK emissions of greenhouse gases only account for around 2 per cent of the global total, the effects of achieving the renewable energy targets would be very small on both sea level rise and melting of polar ice caps. The Department does not, however, hold any specific information on such potential effects.

Numbers of excess winter deaths in England and Wales are reported on an annual basis by the Office for National Statistics, though they are not attributed specifically to internal or external temperatures. The Government does not, however, forecast figures for future years and the Department does not hold any information on how many people will die of cold over a period of 50 and 100 years because of future energy prices.

Appeal Procedure

If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to ask for an internal review. Under Regulation 11(2) of the EIRs a request for an internal review should be submitted no later than 40 working days after the date of this 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.