



Department  
of Energy &  
Climate Change

Department of Energy & Climate Change  
3 Whitehall Place  
London  
SW1A 2AW  
T: +44 (0)300 068 2882  
E: [FI.Denabling@decc.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:FI.Denabling@decc.gsi.gov.uk)  
[www.gov.uk/decc](http://www.gov.uk/decc)

Our ref: 13/1556

Your ref:

19 November 2013

Dear

**RE: REQUEST FOR INFORMATION UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000  
/ ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION REGULATIONS 2004**

I refer to your email of 21 October which made the following request:

*Given the current status of the country and extremely high energy prices, it seems absolutely incredible that you make a so called deal! Of double what it is now per mega watt power.*

*It would seem it's too easy for MPs to play around with money that isn't theirs. If it was your own company you would make a better deal than you have made.*

*Under the freedom of information act I would like to know any MP or MP's wife with shares or interests in the new deal.*

*I would also like to know if the Severn barrage capable of supplying the whole south west is still on hold?*

The first part of your request is being considered under the terms of the Freedom of Information (FOI) Act 2000 as the information in question does not constitute "environmental information". However, the outcome would be the same under the Environmental Information Regulations 2004 (EIRs).

We have interpreted 'any MP or MP's wife' to mean DECC ministers and their spouses. Having completed our search for this information, I can confirm that no DECC ministers or their spouses have shares or interests in the "new deal" in relation to Hinkley Point C. DECC does not hold any information about Members of Parliament or Peers' interests more generally.

Your second question contains an enquiry rather than a request for recorded information held by the Department of Energy & Climate Change (DECC). Where a 'request for information' contains an enquiry, rather than a specific request for copies of information

held by DECC, we deal with such requests as a 'normal course of business' enquiry rather than a formal request for information under the Freedom of Information Act or EIRs.

With respect to this question, the Energy and Climate Change (ECC) Committee recently completed an inquiry on the topic, sparked by the early plans submitted to the Government by Hafren Power for a Severn Barrage. The ECC Committee published their report on 10 June and the Government's response to the report has also been published. For further details, please visit the following web page:

[http://www.parliament.uk/business/committees/committees-a-z/commons-select/energy-and-climate-change-committee/inquiries/parliament-2010/a-severn-barrage/.](http://www.parliament.uk/business/committees/committees-a-z/commons-select/energy-and-climate-change-committee/inquiries/parliament-2010/a-severn-barrage/)"

The Government has no plans to revisit the Severn study at this time.

## **Appeals 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 40 working days of the date of receipt of the response to your original letter and should be sent to the Information Rights Unit at the Department for Business, Innovation & Skills, as they provide a shared FOI advice service to DECC:

Information Rights Unit  
Department for Business, Innovation & Skills  
1 Victoria Street  
London  
SW1H 0ET  
E-mail: [foi.requests@bis.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:foi.requests@bis.gsi.gov.uk)

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

Yours sincerely,