



Our ref: 13/1574

03-12-2013

Dear

Freedom of information request: IPCC SPM and the recent 'pause' in global warming

Thank you for your email dated 5th November 2013. Your request has been considered under 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.

Under the EIRs you have the right to:

- know whether we hold the information you have requested; and
- be provided with that information (subject to any exceptions under the EIRs which may apply).

A search of our paper and electronic records has returned the following information relevant to your request:

Please supply under FOI the following information:

With regard to the recent Summary for Policy Makers published by the IPCC, and with regard to the recent pause in global warming:-

- 1) What advice and/or requests has the government issued to the IPCC, regarding how the SPM should deal with this topic.**
- 2) Copies of all correspondence/emails to the IPCC that relate to this particular topic.**

The only instance where the Government has communicated with the IPCC on this matter is in its formal comments on the draft IPCC AR5 WG1 SPM. The government commented on a paragraph which related to the recent slow-down in global surface temperature rise. The comment made was:

"Can something be said here about the ENSO role and ocean heat? Also, does the statement about the 'reduced trend in radiative forcing is primarily due to ... downward trend in solar cycle' contradict the statement on line 46 that 'solar irradiance does not contribute to global warming'?"

All of our comments, and the earlier SPM draft, are expected to be made publicly available by the IPCC in accordance with Appendix A of the Principles Governing IPCC Work (available at <http://www.ipcc.ch/pdf/ipcc-principles/ipcc-principles-appendix-a-final.pdf>) detailed rules which set out the "procedures for the preparation, review, acceptance, adoption, approval, and publication of IPCC Reports".



Department
of Energy &
Climate Change

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:
foi@decc.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,

Science Team
Department of Energy and Climate Change