

**Department of Energy & Climate  
Change**

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**Our Ref:** 12/1324

15<sup>th</sup> October 2012

Dear NAME REDACTED,

Thank you for your email of 17<sup>th</sup> September where you requested the following information:

*Details of correspondence (letters, emails, phone texts, (including blackberry and Iphone, and skype messages) and meetings (government briefing papers, agendas, and minutes of meetings) between senior officials at the OND and the following:*

- \* Senior officials at the Nuclear Industry Association;
- \* Senior executives at EDF Energy;
- \* Senior executives at RWE nPower;
- \* Senior executives at Areva;
- \* Senior executives at Westinghouse;

*Considering nuclear power / energy policy / nuclear safety, and / or new nuclear build in the UK from the 1st August 2011 until 31st December 2011.*

Your request has been considered under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA). We have interpreted your request to refer to meetings and correspondence where nuclear power, nuclear energy policy, nuclear safety and/or new nuclear build were considered. We have therefore only considered records relating to these specific areas.

I have conducted a search of our records and can confirm that 16 meetings took place in the period 1st August 2011 – 31st December 2011 where the areas specified were discussed.

A list of these meetings is attached as Annex 1, and notes and minutes are attached as Annexes 2 - 8. Please note that Annex 1 is not a complete list of meetings which have taken place, as it excludes those meetings which do not fall within the scope of your request. Similarly, with regards to the minutes released, only that information which falls in scope of your request has been included.

I would like to mention that the attachment to the email in Annex 4 has not been included in this response. This particular document is currently being considered under your more

recent FOI request ref: 12/1401 which will be responded to in due course. A portion of this document was previously released to you under FOI request ref: 12/0041.

Some personal information has been redacted from the information released. This information is exempt under section 40(2) of the FOIA as it constitutes personal data, the disclosure of which, would contravene one or more of the data protection principles. Personal data can only be disclosed in accordance with the data protection principles. 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 do not consider that it is fair and reasonable to release the names of individuals from third parties or those who are not members of the Senior Civil Service, and do not consider that any of the relevant conditions apply. The names of Senior Civil Servants have been published.

Some information has been withheld under Section 43 (2) of the FOIA as its disclosure would, or would be likely to, prejudice the commercial interests of any person. We have considered the public interest in disclosing the information and recognise the importance of conducting our commercial activities in an open and transparent way which ensures that there is proper scrutiny of the Government's actions. However, the disclosure of such information would make it less likely that EDF would provide the Department with commercially sensitive information in the future and consequently undermine the ability of the Department to fulfil its role. Given the potential impact on engagement with future operators and with EDF on the content of their FDPs, in our view, this particular case favours the public interest in withholding the information and has therefore not been included in the response.

If you are unhappy with the result of your request for information, you may request an internal review within two calendar months of the date of this letter. If you wish to request an internal review, please contact:

Information and Security Rights Team (DECC Shared Service)

Department of Business, Innovation & Skills

Victoria 3, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor

1 Victoria Street

London SW1H 0ET

Email: [foi@decc.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:foi@decc.gsi.gov.uk)

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

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

Yours sincerely,

NAME REDACTED

**Office for Nuclear Development**