

Thank you for your email of 22 January where you asked –

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing with a freedom of information request for you under the Freedom of Information Act 2000;

Please could you send me;

a list of all meetings (including hospitality meetings), plus full minutes and all correspondence held between the Department for Energy and Climate Change and the Aluminium Federation between 1st April 2010 and the present day.

a list of all meetings (including hospitality meetings), plus full minutes and all correspondence held between the Department for Energy and Climate Change and the European Aluminium Association between 1st April 2010 and the present day.

a list of all meetings (including hospitality meetings), plus full minutes and all correspondence held between the Department for Energy and Climate Change and the International Aluminium Institute between 1st April 2010 and the present day.

If this is too much information to provide for a £600 request, please reduce the volume by specifying only meetings, minutes and correspondence in the period from 1st January 2011 and the present day, or the most recent time period which will come within the budget.

I would like the above information to be provided to me as electronic copies.

I understand that it is my right to receive your response within 20 working days of your receipt of this letter. I look forward to hearing from you.

Your sincerely

The information you requested is listed below and attached to this response.

- **17 May 2010** Invitation from ALFED Chief Executive to ALFED annual Parliamentary lunch, Tuesday 17 May 2011 (Secretary of State did not attend)
- **21 May 2010** Letter from Member of Parliament to Minister enclosing letter from ALFED Chief Executive to Climate Change Agreements team
- **28 May 2010** Email from ALFED Chief Executive to Secretary of State in response to decline of lunch invite
- **18 June 2010** Invitation from ALFED Chief Executive to ALFED House of Lords Lunch, Wednesday 7 July 2010 (Lord did not attend)
- **6 July 2010** Response from Lord Marland to ALFED invitation dated 18 June 2010
- **12 August 2010** Invitation from ALFED Chief Executive to ALFED lunch for Senior Civil Servants, Tuesday 5 October 2010
- **19 July 2010** Letter from ALFED Chief Executive to Secretary of State regarding noise emission standards and Environmental regulations

- **5 October 2010** DECC official attended lunch hosted by ALFED to discuss industry issues (no minutes or electronic records retained on file)
- **11 March 2011** Letter from ALFED Chief Executive to Member of Parliament regarding visit to Lynemouth site and Renewable Obligation Certificates
- **8 April 2011** Secretary of State response to ALFED invitation dated 17 May 2010
- **5 May 2011** Email from ALFED Chief Executive to Secretary of State regarding UK Aluminium Companies and EU ETS
- **13 June 2011** Minister response to ALFED email dated 5 May 2011
- **22 July 2011** Invitation from ALFED to ALFED lunch for Senior Civil Servants, Tuesday 11 October 2011 (attended by representative of Senior Civil Service)
- **22 July 2011** Email reply to invitation from SCS confirming that a representative will be attending
- **16 August 2011** Email from ALFED confirming receipt and reservation of place at the lunch
- **28 October 2011** Email letter from ALFED thanking representative for attending (the mentioned presentations were not retained)
- **16 March 2012** Letter from ALFED to DECC (consultation response)

We also hold correspondence between ALFED and DECC relating to a technological review report on the aluminium industry jointly commissioned by DECC and BIS. This information has been withheld under Regulation 12(5)(e) of the Environmental Information Regulations. The use of Regulation 12(5)(e) is subject to a public interest test. In this context, we recognise that there is a general public interest in the disclosure of information as greater transparency makes Government more accountable. Against this there is a public interest in ensuring that the commercial interests of external businesses are not damaged or undermined by disclosure of information which is not common knowledge and which could adversely impact on future business. In addition, by releasing such information, the confidence our customers have in us may be damaged, making them reluctant to provide us with commercially sensitive information in the future. In this case, we consider that the public interest in favour of disclosing such information is outweighed by the necessity to protect the commercial interests of third parties. A modified final report will be published on the DECC or BIS websites later this year, with any commercially sensitive information removed, alongside technical reports for a number of other industrial sectors.

Personal data concerning company contacts and junior DECC officials has been redacted under Regulation 12(3) of the Environmental Information Regulations. Regulation 12(3) provides an 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. It is considered that it is not fair to release the names of members of staff and third parties, and it is considered that none of the relevant conditions apply.

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Most documents supplied by DECC will have been produced within Government and will be Crown Copyright. For information about re-using Crown Copyright see the Office of Public Sector Information website at www.opsi.gov.uk. The copyright in some documents may rest with a third party. For information about obtaining permission from a third party see the Intellectual Property Office's website at www.ipo.gov.uk.

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 me at the address below.

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