



Department
of Energy &
Climate Change

Department of Energy & Climate Change

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11 March 2013

Our ref: 13/0235

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

I refer to your email of 13 February which made the following request:

Under the Freedom of Information Act I would like to request the minutes of the meeting held between the Secretary of State, Ed Davey, the minister, Baroness Verma, and Jamie Reed MP, Sir Tony Cunningham MP, Cllr Elaine Woodburn, Cllr Alan Smith and a representative from the Sellafield Workers Group. If no minutes were taken, please provide copies of any notes taken during the meeting.

The information that you have requested constitutes “environmental information” for the purposes of the Environmental Information Regulations 2004 (EIRs). However, to the extent that the information requested is not properly classed as “environmental information”, we have also considered your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

Accordingly, your request has been considered under the terms of both the EIRs and FOIA.

I enclose a copy of the information you requested:

- DECC note of the meeting between the Secretary of State, Baroness Verma, Jamie Reed MP, Sir Tony Cunningham MP, Cllr Elaine Woodburn and Cllr Alan Smith Group on 12 February.

If you are unhappy with the handling 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 me.

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.

Thanks for arranging the meeting between the Secretary of State, Baroness Verma and Councillors from the Copeland and Allerdale Borough Councillors and local MPs Sir Tony Cunningham and Jamie Reed on the 12 February. The meeting provided an excellent opportunity for all parties to review the situation as a result of the vote in Cumbria at the end of January and provided an occasion for discussion on how to take forward the MRWS process in line with the written ministerial statement which followed the January decisions.

A few actions were taken away from the meeting:

- Firstly, DECC agreed that a consultation on the MRWS siting process would be preceded by learning the lessons identified by the two Borough Councils – this is in line with the SoS's written ministerial statement.
- Secondly the SoS welcomed Allerdale and Copeland Borough Councils willingness to share their views. DECC will consider the scope of the consultation and its timing.