



Department
of Energy &
Climate Change

Department of Energy & Climate Change
3 Whitehall Place,
London SW1A 2AW
www.gov.uk/decc

REDACTED
REDACTED

Our ref: FOI 13/1766

8 January 2014

Dear **REDACTED**

Re: Freedom of Information Request

Thank you for your email of 12 December 2013 in which you requested the following:

“Please tell me details of the number of times Ministers at the Department for Energy and Climate Change met representatives of the following Energy UK, NPower, SSE, British Gas, Scottish Power, E.ON and EDF, between January 1 and the present. I would like to know the dates, locations and names of the individuals who were present in each case. Also, the purpose of each meeting.”

Details of DECC Minister’s meetings with external organisations are published quarterly on the www.gov.uk website at this link:

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications?departments%5B%5D=department-of-energy-climate-change&publication_type=transparency-data

The most recently published lists cover the first and second quarter of 2013 i.e January to March and April to June. Therefore this information up to the end of June 2013 is exempt under Section 21 of the Freedom of Information Act



Department
of Energy &
Climate Change

(FOIA), because the information is accessible to you, as it is already in the public domain.

With regard to information about ministerial meetings between June and December 2013 this information is exempt under Section 22 of the FOIA as the information is intended for publication at a future date. Section 22 is a qualified exemption and we have therefore considered the public interest test. We acknowledge that there is a public interest in disclosure of information about ministerial meetings as this leads to greater transparency in government. However, the best use of public resources would be applied in pulling this information together, ensuring the information is accurate and published in a consistent and comprehensive format, rather than issuing it in a piecemeal fashion. This information is still being checked prior to publication. Please be assured that the Department is committed to publishing this information. Having considered the public interest test, the Department's decision is to withhold this information.

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 two months of the date of receipt of the response to your original letter and should be addressed to the Information Rights Unit (foi@decc.gsi.gov.uk).

Information Rights Unit (DECC Shared Service)
Department for Business, Innovation & Skills
1 Victoria Street
London
SW1H 0ET

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

REDACTED