



Department
of Energy &
Climate Change

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Offshore Environment and Decommissioning
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Ref No: 13/0910

7 August 2013

Dear ,

Thank you for your email of 11 July 2013 where you requested the following information:

I am writing to make a Freedom of Information Request regarding offshore oil rig inspections. Can you please provide the following information:

- 1. The total amount of fees generated for the unit under the Offshore Petroleum Activities (oil pollution and control) Regulations 2005 in each calendar year from 2008 until 2012 and 2013 to date.*
- 2. The total amount of fees collected under the Offshore Petroleum Activities (oil pollution and control) Regulations 2005 for a) Life discharge permits and b) Term discharge permits in each year from 2008 until 2012 and 2013 to date.*
- 3. I would be grateful if you could send me details of the fee structure for Life and Term discharge permits under the Offshore Petroleum Activities (oil pollution and control) Regulations 2005.*

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 ('the Act'), you have the right to:

- know whether we hold the information you require
- be provided with that information (subject to any exemptions under the Act which may apply).

I can confirm that the Department holds the information you have requested for the period 2008-12. The information you requested is as follows;

The fees, which are applied in accordance with the Offshore Petroleum Activities (Oil Pollution, Prevention and Control) Regulations 2005 (as amended), do not generate income for the Unit. In line with the HMT guidance on fees and charges, they are offset against the running costs of administering the permits.



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The total amount of costs recovered through OPPC fees for the years 2008-12 are listed in the table below. I have broken this down by life and term in order to also answer your second question.

Year	Total Amount of OPPC Fees	Total Number of OPPC permits	Total OPPC Fees - Life	Total Number of OPPC Life Permits	Total OPPC Fees - Term	Total Number of OPPC Term Permits	Cost Per Permit*
2012	£1,713,133	284	£934,960	155	£778,128	129	£6,032
2011	£1,418,749	309	£628,967	137	£789,652	172	£4,591
2010	£1,125,700	294	£516,915	135	£608,811	159	£3,829
2009	£883,715	315	£440,385	157	£443,190	158	£2,805
2008	£749,474	299	£400,960	160	£348,334	139	£2,506

*rounded up/down

I have sent the OPPC fees structure for 2012 along with this letter.

The Department does not at present hold the information for 2013. This is because the 2013 OPPC fees data will not be completed / collated until the end of the year.

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 sent to the Information Rights Unit – 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,

Offshore Environmental Inspectorate