



Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs

T:
helpline@defra.gsi.gov.uk
www.defra.gov.uk

Your ref:
Our ref: RFI6023
Date: 25 November
2013

Dear [REDACTED]

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION: MAFF Project 'Hot Particles in the terrestrial environment'.

Thank you for your request for information regarding the MAFF Project 'Hot Particles in the terrestrial environment' which we received on 19 November 2013. We have handled your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

The information you requested was for a project undertaken in 1995. I enclose the only remaining document held by Defra library titled 'Hot Particles in the Terrestrial Food Chain: Sources, Characterisation and Radiological Implications (IB078) dated 17 September 1996 by Whittall A.J., McDonald P. and Jackson, D. A 1995 report with the same title and referenced within the 1996 document is not available.

[REDACTED] took over as MAFF Project Officer towards the end of the project and he has since moved on to the Food Standards Agency (FSA). He has, however, sent me the following information regarding the project, which I also enclose:

- The Project Evaluation Report - Hot Particles in the Terrestrial Food Chain: Sources, Characterisation and Radiological Implications.
- Alpha-emitting 'hot particles' in the vicinity of BNFL Sellafield, Cumbria by AJ Whittall, P McDonald and D Jackson and Westlakes Research Institute.

You also requested any files or other information held within Defra relating to the project, including ROAME documents and relevant research tender documents, if they differ from the ROAME template together with minutes of any meetings relating to the tender process for all applicants. All of this information would have been on a MAFF paper file, however I have checked with Defra Records, DECC and FSA, who found no reference to the project. I have been advised that as the information is now 18 years old, the file has been destroyed.

I hope this information is helpful to you, should you have any further queries please contact me.

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]



INVESTORS
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Annex
Complaints

If you are unhappy with the service you have received in relation to your request you may make a complaint or appeal against our decision under section 17(7) of the FOIA or under regulation 18 of the EIRs, as applicable, within 40 working days of the date of this letter. Please write to Mike Kaye, Head of Information Standards, Area 4D, Nobel House, 17 Smith Square, London, SW1P 3JR (email: requestforinfo@defra.gsi.gov.uk) and he will arrange for an internal review of your case. Details of Defra's complaints procedure are on our [website](#).

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, section 50 of the FOIA and regulation 18 of the EIRs gives you the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. Please note that generally the Information Commissioner cannot make a decision unless you have first exhausted Defra's own complaints procedure. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF