



Department
of Energy &
Climate Change

Department of Energy & Climate Change

3 Whitehall Place,
London SW1A 2AW

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www.gov.uk/decc

Your ref:
Our ref: FOI2014/20845

3rd October 2014

Dear

Thank you for your email of 15 September 2014 (10:05) where you requested the following information:

1. How long the DECC are currently taking to determine Section 37 applications based on a full and complete application being made to DECC with approved Form B and all wayleave agreements in place.
2. How many man hours per week, or, no. of employees, at DECC are dedicated to the determination of Section 37 applications

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. The information you requested is as follows:

1. Currently the average processing time for determining section 37 applications is 11 weeks, from the date a full application is received to the date the consent is issued. There is no statutory timescale for the Department to determine applications made to the Secretary of State under section 37 of the Electricity Act 1989. How long each Section 37 application takes to progress through the Department's administrative process is variable, and dependent on a number of factors which may include consultation with other Government Departments, or consultation with relevant local planning authorities or other statutory bodies regarding any conditions to be included in the consent.
2. There is one full time administration officer (37 hours per week), a part-time administration officer (7 hours per week) and one full-time consent manager (18.5 hours per week) processing section 37 applications for England & Wales.



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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 at:

Information Rights Unit
Department for Business, Innovation & Skills
1 Victoria Street
London
SW1H 0ET
E-mail: foi.requests@bis.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,

National Infrastructure Consents