



OFFICE OF THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON BUSINESS APPOINTMENTS

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March 2015

You asked for the Committee's advice about taking up an appointment with Ilios Group, having left Government in July 2014.

When considering your application the Committee took into account the fact that this is a part-time paid appointment (1 day per week). You will join the board as a non executive director to help with strategy, growth and governance of this major new solar company in Mexico, launched to drive forward distributed clean energy following the reform of their electricity sector. You will focus particularly on the roll out of residential solar in the second half of 2015.

The Committee has noted that during your last two years in office you stated that you did not have any official dealings with your prospective employer. As a Minister, you visited Mexico once, for the December 2010 Cancun Climate Change Conference. You stated that you are not aware of any relationship, either contractual or non contractual, between your prospective employer and your former departments and that during your last two years in office you did not have any official dealings with competitors of your prospective employer.

The Committee also considered the views of your former departments.

Taking into account all the circumstances the Committee is content to approve the appointment, subject to the following conditions:

- you should not draw on privileged information available to you from your time in Government (including in your capacity as the Prime Minister's Envoy on Climate Change) and

Members:

Mark Addison, Sir Alex Allan KCB, Baroness Browning (Chair),
Lord German OBE, Mary Jo Jacobi, Rt Hon Baroness Liddell of Coatdyke,
Sir Hugh Stevenson, General the Lord Walker of Aldringham GCB CMG CBE

From the Chair

- for two years from your last day in Ministerial office, you should not become personally involved in lobbying UK Government on behalf of your new employer its parent companies or its clients.

It might be helpful if I add that lobbying is defined in the Business Appointment Rules in the following way – “Lobbying in this context means that the former Minister should not engage in communication with Government – including Ministers, special advisers and officials – with a view to influencing a Government decision or policy in relation to their own interests, or the interests of the organisation by which they are employed, or to whom they are contracted.”

I should be grateful if you would inform us as soon as you take up the appointment, or if it is announced that you will do so, either by returning the enclosed form or by emailing the office at the above address. We shall otherwise not be able to deal with any enquiries, since we do not release information about appointments which have not been taken up or announced. This could lead to a false assumption being made about whether you had complied with the Ministerial Code. Similarly, I should be grateful if you would inform us if you propose to extend or otherwise change your role with Ilios Group as, depending on the circumstances, it may be necessary for you to seek fresh advice.

Once the appointment has been publicly announced or taken up, we will publish this letter on the Committee’s website and include the main details of the applications, together with the Advisory Committee’s advice, in the regularly updated consolidated list on our website and in the next annual report.

Baroness Browning

Greg Barker MP

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