



Ministry
of Defence

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13 August 2015

Ref. FOI2015/06564

Dear

Request for Information: Project Cleansweep Completion Report

Thank you for your enquiry dated 21 July 2015. This has been dealt with under the Freedom of Information (FOI) Act 2000.

You asked:

"Would you be able to provide us with a copy of the Project Cleansweep Completion Report?"

If this report has not yet been published, would you be able to provide details of when it will be and information on the delay of this publication. Additionally in the event that the report is not available, please could you provide us with any information available regarding the Valley Works site including:

- Are there any human health or environmental concerns relating to the Valley Works site or the surrounding area (including the Bryn Celyn Farm (adjacent to the west) and the Tany Yr Allot Farm (150m west)?*
- Were any storage, testing or manufacturing activities known to have been undertaken in the mine shafts beneath the aforementioned farms?"*

All of the information in scope of your request falls entirely within the scope of qualified exemptions provided for at Sections 22(1) (Intended for future publication) of the FOIA and has been withheld.

Section 22 (1) is a qualified exemption and is subject to a public interest testing which means that the information requested can only be withheld if the public interest in doing so outweighs the public interest in disclosure.

The outcome of the public interest test clarifies that the public interest in withholding the information outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information, as it is important for the public authority to place information in the public domain proactively and to avoid damaging the reputation of the government bodies.

Under Section 16 of the Act (Advice and Assistance) you may find it helpful to note that the report has not yet been published because of two additional ground water monitoring reports which are still being produced.

At this moment in time I am unable to provide you with a date for publication of the Completion report, however I will provide you with a copy once the report is released.

Yours sincerely,

DIO Secretariat

If you are not satisfied with this response or you wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of your request, then you should contact DIO Secretariat in the first instance. If informal resolution is not possible and you are still dissatisfied then you may apply for an independent internal review by contacting the Information Rights Compliance team, 1st Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall, SW1A 2HB (e-mail CIO-FOI-IR@mod.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review must be made within 40 working days of the date on which the attempt to reach informal resolution has come to an end.

If you remain dissatisfied following an internal review, you may take your complaint to the Information Commissioner under the provisions of Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act. Please note that the Information Commissioner will not investigate your case until the MOD internal review process has been completed. Further details of the role and powers of the Information Commissioner can be found on the Commissioner's website, <http://www.ico.org.uk>.