



Ministry of Defence

Secretariat
Defence Infrastructure Organisation
Kingston Road
Sutton Coldfield
B75 7RL

E-mail: diosec-parli@mod.gov.uk
www.gov.uk/DIO

Ref. FOI 2018/15856

14 January 2019

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email of 12 December 2018 requesting the following information:

"Please provide copies of the following documents:

(1) the Royal Air Force No.1 Group assessment of the operational effects on air traffic control radar of the proposed wind farm at Edintore, Moray (Moray Council planning reference 10/02092/EIA; Defence Estates reference 6684), which provided the basis for the Defence Estates pre-planning consultation response to the developer on 6th August 2008;

(2) any subsequent RAF 1 Group operational assessments of the effects of the proposed wind farm at Edintore, Moray (Moray Council planning reference 10/02092/EIA; Defence Estates reference 6684), in response to consultation on the planning application in the period from December 2010 onwards;

(3) any correspondence and documents submitted by the MoD to the Planning and Environmental Appeals Division (DPEA) of the Scottish Government in 2012 in relation to the appeal against the refusal of planning permission for the Edintore wind farm (DPEA case reference PPA-300-2013)."

I am treating your correspondence as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

A search for the information has now been completed within the Ministry of Defence (MOD) and I can confirm that some information, in scope of your request is held.

On item 1, the information you have requested can be found enclosed at annex A but some of the information falls entirely within the scope of the absolute exemptions provided for at Sections 40 (Personal Data) of the FOIA and has been redacted.

Section 40(2) has been applied to some of the information in order to protect personal information as governed by the General Data Protection Regulation and Data Protection Act 2018. Section 40 is an absolute exemption and there is therefore no requirement to consider the public interest in making a decision to withhold the information.

On item 2, no information is held for the period December 2010 onwards.

On item 3, no information is held.

Under Section 16 of the Act (Advice and Assistance) you may find it helpful to note that in relation to item 2 a 2nd operational assessment was carried out in May 2010. This has been enclosed at Annex B for your information, but some of the information falls entirely within the scope of the absolute exemptions provided for at Sections 40 (Personal Data) of the FOIA and has been redacted.

If you have any queries regarding the content of this letter, please contact this office in the first instance.

If you wish to complain about the handling of your request, or the content of this response, you can request an independent internal review by contacting the Information Rights Compliance team, Ground Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall, SW1A 2HB (e-mail CIO-FOI-IR@mod.gov.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review should be made in writing within 40 working days of the date of this response.

If you remain dissatisfied following an internal review, you may raise your complaint directly to the Information Commissioner under the provisions of Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act. Please note that the Information Commissioner will not normally investigate your case until the MOD internal review process has been completed. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF. Further details of the role and powers of the Information Commissioner can be found on the Commissioner's website at <https://ico.org.uk/>.

Yours sincerely,

DIO Secretariat



WO ACC SM Windfarms

HEADQUARTERS AIR COMMAND

Defence Estates – Ops North
Kingston Road
Sutton Coldfield
West Midlands
B75 7RL

Tel: [REDACTED]
DFTS [REDACTED]
Fax: [REDACTED]
Email: [REDACTED]

Reference: 20080710 Windfarm Application
WO ACC SM Windfarms

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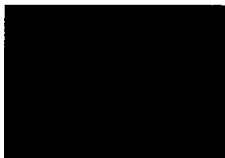
Date: 10 Jul 08

WIND FARM DEVELOPMENT PROPOSAL

1. DE requested that we review the proposal to erect a 2 x 125m turbine wind farm at Edintore. Following a detailed examination of the proposal, the impact of the proposed development on ATC radars and the ATC usage of Airspace in the region it was considered that, although there would be an impact on ATC radar coverage, the impact was manageable.

Location	Conflicting Radar	DE Ref
Edintore	RAF Lossiemouth	6684

2. We do not have concerns with the Edintore proposal (DE6684) as it is assessed that the effect on ATC operations and radar performance at RAF Lossiemouth are manageable. This level of concern is predicated on the fact that there will be no additional turbine construction or a change in turbine height without a separate planning request being submitted and that this farm is constructed before the number of future consented proposals in the area exceeds that which the radar can manage. Failing this it may be that the quicker construction of sites in a similar area submitted subsequent to this proposal might cause a change of heart.



[REDACTED]
WO
For COS OPS

Distribution:
DE Sutton Coldfield [REDACTED]

Copy to:
DE Sutton Coldfield [REDACTED]
RAF Lossiemouth (SATCO)



Defence Airspace & Air Traffic Management

WO ATM Windfarm Analysis

Defence Estates – Ops North
Kingston Road
Sutton Coldfield
West Midlands
B75 7RL

Tel: [REDACTED]
Mil Net: [REDACTED]
Fax: [REDACTED]
Email: [REDACTED]

Reference:
20100331 Windfarm Application
WO ATM Windfarm Analysis

Date: 31 Mar 10

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WIND FARM DEVELOPMENT PROPOSAL

1. DE requested that DAATM review the proposal to erect a 6 x 125m turbine wind farm at Edintore. Following a detailed examination of the proposal, the impact of the proposed development on ATC radars and the ATC usage of Airspace in the region it was considered that, although there would be an impact on ATC Operations, the impact was manageable.

Location	Conflicting Radar	DE Ref
Edintore	RAF Lossiemouth	6684(A)

2. At present, DAATM does not have concerns with the Edintore proposal (DE6684(A)) as it is assessed that the effect on ATC operations at RAF Lossiemouth are manageable. This level of concern is held on the basis that there will be no additional turbines or a change in turbine height without a separate consultation. Also considered is that this proposal would be constructed before the number of future consented proposals in the area exceeds that which the radar can manage. The cumulative impact of multiple turbines in any given area would result in the degradation of radar performance. It should therefore be noted that the propagation of turbines in this area could lead to a future concern being raised in order to protect the MoD's radar coverage.



[REDACTED]
WO
For COS OPS

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DE Sutton Coldfield