



Animal &  
Plant Health  
Agency

Animal and Plant Health Agency  
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[www.gov.uk/apha](http://www.gov.uk/apha)

Our Ref: ATIC2072

[REDACTED]  
{By Email}

16 July 2020

Dear [REDACTED]

## PROVISION OF REQUESTED INFORMATION

Thank you for your request for information regarding Omega Proteins Ltd, which we received on 24 June 2020. Your request has been handled under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOI).

The information you requested and our response is detailed below:

“Is Omega Proteins Ltd, Wildriggs, Penrith, Cumbria, handling any category 3 animal waste, in particular fowl/meat from plants where coronavirus has been identified among workers? Is Omega licenced for category 3 animal waste rendering?”

The Animal and Plant Health Agency (APHA) acts as the competent authority and works to ensure compliance with the animal by-product (ABP) Regulations. APHA has a responsibility to provide advice and direction relating to the requirements of the ABP Regulations, how they are applied within the UK and APHA processes relating to approval and registration of ABP businesses. APHA carries out official controls and supervision of the handling of animal by-products and derived products to ensure compliance with the ABP Regulations. No additional information regarding an establishment outside the scope of those Regulations is maintained by APHA.

We can confirm that Omega Proteins is approved as a Category 3 processing plant as per the approved list available on GOV.uk  
(<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/animal-by-product-operating-plants-approved-premises>).

Information disclosed in response to this FOI request is releasable to the public. In keeping with the spirit and effect of the FOI and the government's Transparency Agenda, this letter and the information disclosed to you may be placed on GOV.UK, together with any related information that will provide a key to its wider context. No information identifying you will be placed on the GOV.UK website.

An Annex is attached which explains the copyright that applies to the information being released to you and contact details should you be unhappy with the service you have received.

APHA is an Executive Agency of the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs and also works on behalf of the Scottish Government, Welsh Government and Food Standards Agency to safeguard animal and plant health for the benefit of people, the environment and the economy.

If you have any queries about this letter, please contact the Access to Information Team at the email address below. During the current Coronavirus outbreak, our offices will be closed.

Yours sincerely

**ACCESS TO INFORMATION TEAM**

Email: [enquiries@apha.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@apha.gov.uk)

## Annex

### Copyright

The information supplied to you continues to be protected by copyright. You are free to use it for your own purposes, including for private study and non-commercial research, and for any other purpose authorised by an exception in current copyright law. Documents (except photographs or logos) can also be used in the UK without requiring permission for the purposes of news reporting. Any other re-use, for example commercial publication, would require the permission of the copyright holder.

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Copyright in other documents may rest with a third party. For information about obtaining permission from a third party see the [Intellectual Property Office's website](#).

### 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 11 of the EIRs, as applicable, within 40 working days of the date of this letter. Please write to the Access to Information Manager at the address at the top of this letter or email [enquiries@apha.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@apha.gov.uk) and the team will arrange for an internal review of your case.

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's Office (ICO) for a decision. Please note that generally the ICO cannot make a decision unless you have first exhausted APHA's own complaints procedure. The ICO can be contacted at:

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

### Coronavirus

However, following the changes to Government advice, from Tuesday 24 March 2020 the ICO offices will be closed. They will therefore not be able to collect correspondence sent via post. Where possible, they ask that you [contact them online](#) or call on 0303 123 1113