



Ref : EIR2024-011

5th March 2024

Dear [REDACTED]

Further to our previous correspondence regarding your request for the following information:

West Berkshire District Council Planning Application no: 22/01330/REG3, Construction and operation of a solar farm and battery storage system together with cable route and all associated works, equipment and necessary infrastructure, Land North of Bloomfield Hatch Farm, Bloomfield Hatch, Mortimer, Reading, West Berkshire, being determined during summer 2022, is located near Burghfield AWE and therefore I would be most grateful if AWE can provide the following:

- 1. Details of correspondence received by AWE in relation 22/01330/REG3.*
- 2. Details of AWE's subsequent response to correspondence received as referenced in point 1 above.*
- 3. Details of notes made following verbal discussions relating to 22/01330/REG3.*
- 4. Details of correspondence received from West Berkshire District Council inviting AWE to respond to Planning application no: 22/01330/REG3.*
- 5. Details of AWE's response(s) to West Berkshire District Council following receipt of correspondence received from West Berkshire District Council as referenced in point 4 above.*
- 6. Details of correspondence sent to AWE by the applicant associated with 22/01330/REG3.*
- 7. Details of AWE's subsequent response(s) to the applicant as referenced in point 7 above.*

Your request has been handled as a request for information under the Environmental Information Regulations 2004 (EIR).

Thorough searches have been carried out to locate the information you requested and we can confirm that the Atomic Weapons Establishment (AWE) has not been able to locate any relevant information. The exception at regulation 12(4)(a) of the EIRs, which relates to information deemed not to be held at the time when an applicant's request is received applies to the information you have requested. Regulation 12(4)(a) is a qualified exception, which usually means that a public authority is required to conduct a public interest test to determine whether or not information should be disclosed or withheld. However, the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO), who is the independent regulator for requests made under the EIRs, takes the view that a public interest test in cases where the information is not held would serve no useful purpose. Therefore, in line with the ICO's view, AWE has not conducted a public interest test in this case.



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Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications. If you have any queries regarding the content of this letter, please contact this office in the first instance.

If you are unhappy with the way your request has been handled you have a right to request an internal review within 40 days of receiving this letter, by writing to information.requests@awe.co.uk or our postal address: Information Requests Team, AWE Aldermaston, Reading, RG7 4PR. If you are still unhappy after an internal review has been completed, under the provisions of Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and Regulation 18 of the EIRs you have the right to take your complaint to the Information Commissioner's Office. Please note the Commissioner will generally not consider a complaint until you have exhausted AWE's internal complaints process.

Yours sincerely,

AWE Information Requests Team