

James Gallagher
Information Officer



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Nick Hildyard
The Corner House
Station Road
Sturminster Newton
Dorset
DT10 1YJ

14 May 2007

Dear Mr Hildyard

ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION REGULATION REQUEST, EIR(07)01

Thank you for your request for information dated 2 May 2007, under the Environmental Information Regulations ("EIRs"), asking for copies of the case screening questionnaires and the case impact screening assessments/checklists relating to ECGD's support for:

- Shin Kori Power Station Project, Korea
- Shin Wolsuing Power Station, Korea
- No 3 Single Strand Slab Casters, India
- Two dry compressors, Iran

In 2006, ECGD received a number of other requests for case impact analysis questionnaires and assessments. Like yours, these were submitted in batches; either in a single email covering several separate cases, or in separate emails arriving within days of each other. We dealt with them on a first-come-first-served basis but experience has shown that there is a limit to the number we can deal with at any time. Requests of this sort require the attention of specialist staff in ECGD's Business Principles Unit and attempting to process the current volume of requests would impose a disproportionate burden on them, to the extent of diverting them from their core casework functions for an excessive amount of time.

In these circumstances, given that there is no prospect of our being able to cope with all of your requests within the timeframe set out in the Regulations, I regret that ECGD will have to reject all four of them for the reason provided for in Regulation 12(4)(b) of the EIRs, that the volume is "manifestly unreasonable".

We estimate that it would be manageable to handle two requests for case impact questionnaires and assessments concurrently without serious detriment to casework

functions. Should you wish to re-submit two of your requests, we would ensure that these are taken forward in order of date of receipt, taking into account other requests we may receive.

In applying this exception, ECGD has considered carefully where the balance of public interest lies and has concluded that it weighs in favour of not diverting specialist resources excessively away from their primary casework responsibilities and thus, potentially, hindering ECGD from fulfilling its statutory responsibilities of facilitating the export of goods and services.

If you are unhappy with the result of your request for information, you may request an internal review within two calendar months of the date of this letter. If you wish to request an internal review please contact the Senior Information Officer (Steve Roberts-Mee, Senior Information Officer), ECGD, PO Box 2200, 2 Exchange Tower, Harbour Exchange Square, London E14 9GS, or email: information.access@ecgd.gsi.gov.uk if you wish to complain.

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

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

If you have any queries about this letter, please contact me. Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J Gallagher', with a stylized flourish at the end.

James Gallagher
Information Officer