



13 February 2009

Kelly Bornshlegel
request-6607-7e387fe5@whatdotheyknow.com
(by email only)

Dear Ms Bornshlegel,

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000

Thank you for your email, which we received on 23 January 2009. In that request, you asked us for:

"Please could you give me a list of all documents that you hold referring to BG's Gaza Marine Field, BG's exploration licence offshore Gaza, or sale of gas from this gas field to Egypt, Israel, the Palestinian Authority or Hamas. Please include minutes of internal and external meetings correspondence or memos".

I can confirm that this Department may hold information relevant to your request. However, the Cabinet Office is unable to comply with your request as it is currently stated.

Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act makes provision for public authorities to refuse requests for information where the cost of dealing with them would exceed the appropriate limit. The appropriate limit has been specified in regulations; and for central Government it is set at £600. This represents the estimated cost of one person spending 3½ working days in determining whether the Department holds the information, locating, retrieving, and in this case, listing the information.

Our enquiries to date suggest that the Cabinet Office holds over 48 policy files relating to the Middle East, which may or may not contain information and documentation relevant to your request. In order for us to provide assistance to you, you would need to refine your request. For example, you might like to limit your request for information relating to information dating from two specific years. It may be that we could comply with that request within the cost limit, although I cannot guarantee that this will be the case.

Some information which may be of interest is in the public domain the BG Group website can be found here:

<http://www.bg-group.com/Pages/BGHome.aspx>.

If you are unhappy with the service you have received in relation to your



request, or wish to request an internal review, you should write to:

Sue Gray
Director
Cabinet Office
70 Whitehall
London
SW1A 2AS

E-mail: foiteam@cabinet-office.x.gsi.gov.uk

Please remember to quote the reference number below in any future communications. Please note that the Cabinet Office will not normally accept an application for internal review if it is received more than two months after the date that the reply was issued.

If you are not content with the outcome of your internal review, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. Generally, the Commissioner cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted the complaints procedure provided by Cabinet Office. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

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

*Yours sincerely,
RCKingston*

REBECCA KINGSTON

