

Mr Gary Jones
Email: request-138045-882006a8@whatdotheyknow.com

Department of Energy & Climate Change
3 Whitehall Place,
London SW1A 2AW
T: +44(0)300 060 4000
www.decc.gov.uk

Ref: 12/1608

7 December 2012

Dear Mr Jones,

Thank you for your email dated 13 November 2012 where you requested the following information:

Please can you provide me with information on what are the safety guidelines, standards, regulations, limits, scales or levels the DECC uses for deeming what is normal levels and what is dangerous when testing for all kinds of chemicals or contaminants in the environment etc.

I require specific information, like any charts, tables or guidelines you may use to judge what level of chemicals, contaminants should normally be present in ATMOSPHERE, WATER I.E RAIN PRECIPITATION, LAKES, PONDS RIVERS ETC and SOIL. I need to know what are the DECC recommended or safe levels for the environment and people, and what isn't i.e when would action/intervention be deemed necessary.

If you could please provide this information in an A-Z list of everything you test and monitor for I would be very grateful.

From our preliminary assessment, it is clear that we will not be able to answer your request without further clarification.

The Department of Energy and Climate Change requires further information in order to identify and locate the information you have asked for. In particular, it would be useful to know why you believe the request relates to this department, rather than, for example the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, Environment Agency, Health Protection Agency or the Health and Safety Executive. Please could you let us know the specific information you require and how this relates to the operation of this department. We will then be able to address your request specifically.

Once you have clarified your request, we will be able to begin to process your request. If we do not receive clarification within three months your request will be considered to have lapsed. (Under section 1(3) of the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), a public authority need not comply with a request unless any further information reasonably required to locate the information is supplied).

Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications.

Yours sincerely,

DECC Information Rights Unit
Department of Energy and Climate Change