

Mr Carroll

Our ref: MC21297

Your ref:

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX@XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX.XXX

Date: 28 March 2011

Dear Mr Carroll

RE: Request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) / Environmental Information Regulations 2004 (EIR)

Thank you for your enquiry which was received on 25 February 2011.

You asked

(i) I am requesting whether you hold a copy of the documents CL Associates, "restoration Options for Rattlechain Sludge Lagoon, Oldbury, West Midlands, dated July 1996, reference no 6871 and URS Corporation Ltd, Options Study for restoration of the Rattlechain sludge lagoon, Ref 1064/44557-020-787/JC/RC, dated 20 March 2002?

The Environment Agency does not hold copies of either of these documents.

(ii) If you do not hold these, can you confirm if officers at the environment agency concerned with evaluating the best long term sustainable solution for the site have requested to see these documents from the site owners in their endeavours to assess the "restoration options"?

The Environment Agency has not formally requested copies of these documents from the site owner. We are evaluating the option currently being considered by the site owner as related in (iii) below.

(iii) Can the Agency confirm if it holds any recorded information-including email discussions with the site owners, concerning that one option for restoration is the laying of a geotextile membrane, followed by capping with gravel and hardcore imported onto the site?

The only recorded information we hold are the same documents that the site owner has already directly supplied to yourself. These are:

(a) Rattlechain Lagoon, Bird Management Plan, 26th November 2008 FINAL, Issue No 3, 49309240.

In Appendix B you will find a copy of the Environment Agency's response to the site owner's consultation on Issue No 1 of the Bird Management Plan.

(b) Rattlechain Lagoon, Geofabric Field Trial Report, 22nd April 2010, Final Issue No 49309316/.

There are no e-mail discussions with the site owners in relation to this option.

Requests for information that is recorded are generally governed by the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA). The information you have requested is environmental and it is therefore exempted from the provisions of FOIA by FOIA s.39(1).

We have therefore considered your request under the provisions of the Environmental Information Regulations 2004 (EIR).

I hope that we have correctly interpreted your request. Please see the Copyright Disclaimer for details of permitted use.

If you are not satisfied with our response to your request for information you can contact us to ask for our decision to be reviewed. If you are still not satisfied following this, you can then make an appeal to the Information Commissioner, who is the statutory regulator for Freedom of Information. The address is: Office of the Information Commissioner, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 5AF.

Tel: 01625 545700.

Fax: 01625 524 510.

E-mail: xxxx@xxx.xxx.xx.

Website: <http://www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk>

Yours sincerely

External Relations Team

Midlands – Central Area

Email. midscentral@environment-agency.gov.uk

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