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Date as email

Dear Mr Amis

FOI-20-3933

Thank you for your information request which was received on 02 December 2020. I have processed your request under the Environmental Information Regulations ('EIR') 2004 ('the Regulations') because the information you have requested concerns work affecting the environment according to the definition in Regulation 2. Section 39 of the Freedom of Information Act ('FOI') 2000 ('the Act') exempts environmental information from the Act but requires us to consider it under the EIR.

I apologise for the late delivery of this response. This was due to the complex nature of the requested information.

RESPONSE

Please find our response below. Please note we address each of your questions in turn for ease of reference.

1. The most up to date risk assessment or SIMILAR which describes the risk posed by HS2's construction to the Chiltern aquifer.

Please find attached Appendix A and Appendix B. Some information has been redacted by virtue of Regulation 12(5)(a) and Regulation 13. Please refer to Appendix C for further information on the application of these exceptions.

2. The most recent date when information regarding the risk to the Chiltern aquifer was presented to the HS2 Ltd Board.

HS2 Ltd Board Minutes are published online and can be accessed at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/high-speed-two-limited/about/our-governance>

3. The information that was supplied to the Board in point 2.

See answer to question 2 above.

Right to Review

If you are unhappy with the way we have handled your request or with the decisions made in relation to your request, you may complain in writing to HS2 Ltd. Please find below details of HS2 Ltd's complaints procedure which includes your right to complain to the Information Commissioner.

Please remember to quote reference number **FOI-20-3933** in any future communication relating to this request.

Yours sincerely

Sent on behalf of Carl Bird

Briefings, Correspondence and FOI Manager
High Speed Two (HS2) Limited

Your right to complain to HS2 Ltd and the Information Commissioner

You have the right to complain to HS2 Ltd within 40 working days of the date of this response about the way in which your request for information was handled and/or about the decision not to disclose all or part of the information requested.

Your complaint will be acknowledged and you will be advised of a target date by which to expect a response. Initially your complaint will be re-considered by the official who dealt with your request for information. If, after careful consideration, that official decides that his/her decision was correct, your complaint will automatically be referred to a senior independent official who will conduct a further review. You will be advised of the outcome of your complaint and if a decision is taken to disclose information originally withheld this will be done as soon as possible.

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