



MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

Mr FWP Dawson

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27 October 2010

Dear Mr Dawson

Request for Information: Radioactive Contamination at Dalgety Bay

Thank you for your enquiry dated 3 October 2010. This was passed to Defence Estates (DE), the Ministry of Defence (MOD) organisation responsible for managing the defence estate and has been dealt with as a request for information in accordance with the Environmental Information Regulations 2004.

You asked for the survey reports and risk assessments for the beach and foreshore at Dalgety Bay, with regards to radioactive contamination. You also asked for information about the levels of radioactive contamination and associated risks inland from the beach at Dalgety Bay.

I can confirm that the MOD holds information that falls within the scope of your request.

The Completion Report, detailing the Radiological Support with respect to the beach and foreshore areas, was published on 19 October 2010. A technical note addendum to the report was published on 22 September 2010. I am advised that the risk assessment for Dalgety Bay is currently limited to a qualitative assessment, and this is contained within the technical note. I can forward hard copies of both of these documents, upon receipt of your postal address.

With respect to information about levels of radioactive contamination and associated risks inland from the beach, the independent report commissioned by Envirocon concluded that all point sources identified at Dalgety Bay Sailing Club Boat Park, Sealstrand and the former Salvage Section, were removed resulting in surface measured count and dose rates being consistent with background levels. This means that the risk to the general public using the Sailing Club remains low.

The report also examined residential areas, and stated that the intervention works in the former Salvage Section have decreased the likely whole body dose to residents to significantly below the Health Protection Criteria guidelines. The residual risk is therefore considered to be low. With the completion of the specific investigations coupled with the removal of contaminated material at the particular property, it was concluded that the site could no longer be potentially designated as statutory contaminated land.



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If you are not satisfied with this response or you wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of your request, then you should contact me in the first instance. If informal resolution is not possible and you are still dissatisfied then you may apply for an independent internal review by contacting the Head of Corporate Information, 2nd Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall, SW1A 2HB (e-mail CIO-FOxxxx@xxx.xx). Please note that any request for an internal review must be made within 40 working days of the date on which the attempt to reach informal resolution has come to an end.

If you remain dissatisfied following an internal review, you may take your complaint to the Information Commissioner under the provisions of Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act. Please note that the Information Commissioner will not investigate your case until the MOD internal review process has been completed. Further details of the role and powers of the Information Commissioner can be found on the Commissioner's website, www.ico.gov.uk.

Yours sincerely

DE Sec-Sec PBFOI