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Lisa Evans

By e-mail to: [Lisa.Evans\[SMTP:REQUEST-30071-5815CFA4@WHATDOTHEYKNOW.COM\]](mailto:Lisa.Evans[SMTP:REQUEST-30071-5815CFA4@WHATDOTHEYKNOW.COM])

Our ref: 10/0424

26 March 2010

Dear Ms Evans

DATA RELATING TO DECC DEPARTMENTAL EXPENDITURE - REQUEST FOR INFORMATION UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000

I refer to your e-mail of 3 March which asked the following:

I would like to request the amount of departmental spending on gas excavation, research, transportation, gas powerstation research, construction, maintenance and deconstruction for UK. I would like the spending broken down by:

1. Category of spending in the supplementary budgetary report (http://www.hm-treasury.gov.uk/d/sbi66_decc.pdf).

AND

2. Time: I would like this information broken down annually from 2003 up to the time this request is answered. The years should be consistent with those in the supplementary budgetary report (http://www.hm-treasury.gov.uk/d/sbi66_decc.pdf).

I realise that the Department for Energy and Climate Change has only been in existence for a year and so I would like the equivalent spending from BERR to be included in this request.

I would like the spending to be in an Excel spreadsheet.

I am afraid that it has been difficult to fully understand your request. The Department is not actively involved in gas extraction, transportation, construction, maintenance and deconstruction for the UK. These activities are carried out by the various industries involved in the UK energy market.

DECC does however have a strong regulatory role covering a number of energy sectors, and I can confirm that, through its Oil & Gas Maximising Recovery Programme (OGMRP), the Department does contribute funding to research related to enhancing the recovery of the UK's oil and gas resources and the expenditure levels (covering as was DTI and BERR, and now DECC) are set out below:

OGMRP (£million)

2003-04 Outturn	2004-05 Outturn	2005-06 Outturn	2006-07 Outturn	2007-08 Outturn	2008-09 Outturn	2009-10 Plans	2010-11 Plans
2.48	2.66	2.11	2.26	2.55	2.57	<i>Anticipated</i> 2.5	Not Yet Set

DECC has also in the past provided funding to invest in technology development for the oil and gas sector through a scheme called "Competitiveness in the Oil and Gas Supplies Sector Aid Scheme". This scheme was discontinued in 2007 just prior to the establishment of the Technology Strategy Board. Historic expenditure below is set out:

Competitiveness in the Oil and Gas Supplies Sector (£million)

2003-04 Outturn	2004-05 Outturn	2005-06 Outturn	2006-07 Outturn	2007-08 Outturn	2008-09 Outturn	2009-10 Plans	2010-11 Plans
1.64	2.05	1.33	0.04	0.02	Nil	Nil	Nil

I am afraid that this information is not available in Excel.

The Department has no spending on gas powerstation research, construction, maintenance and deconstruction.

Appeals procedure

If you are unhappy with the result of your request for information, you may request an internal review within two calendar months of the date of this letter. If you wish to request an internal review please contact the department.

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. Contact details: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF.

Yours sincerely



Julian Wells

*Oil & Gas Licensing Exploration & Development
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