



Department
of Energy &
Climate Change

Nicholas Wells
via request-166243-7d00d55b@whatdotheyknow.com

**Department of Energy & Climate
Change**

3 Whitehall Place,
London SW1A 2AW
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www.decc.gov.uk

Our ref: 13/0814

23-07-2013

Dear Mr Wells

Freedom of information request: Methods of geoengineering

Thank you for your email dated 25th June 2013. Your request has been considered under the Environmental Information Regulations 2004 (EIRs) as the information you have sought disclosure of, does in our view, fall within the definition of 'environmental information' as stated in the EIRs.

Under the EIRs you have the right to:

- know whether we hold the information you have requested; and
- be provided with that information (subject to any exceptions under the EIRs which may apply).

A search of our paper and electronic records has returned the following information relevant to your request:

Please provide me with a list of the geoengineering techniques the DECC are aware of and confirm which of these techniques are currently or were previously used in or above the United Kingdom or elsewhere, and if elsewhere then where.

DECC is aware of the techniques discussed in the Royal Society paper on geoengineering, online at
http://royalsociety.org/uploadedFiles/Royal_Society_Content/policy/publications/2009/8693.pdf.

We regularly keep in touch with academics and contractors to ensure that our knowledge is comprehensive and up to date. Since publication of the Royal Society report in 2009 we have not learnt of any new techniques not covered in that report.

No geoengineering techniques are being deployed in or above the UK.

We do not hold any records of any current or previous deployment of geoengineering anywhere in the world.

Please note the Royal Society report does describe some instances of weather modification. However we do not consider these to fall within the definition of geoengineering, which is usually used to mean a deliberate intervention in the planetary environment of a nature and scale intended to counteract man-made climate change and/or its impacts. We have used this definition in answering your request.



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The government has agreed that research into geoengineering is desirable; see a statement of our views at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/geo-engineering-research-the-government-s-view>.

If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to ask for an internal review. Under Regulation 11(2) of the EIRs a request for an internal review should be submitted no later than 40 working days after the date of this letter and should be addressed to: foi@decc.gsi.gov.uk

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

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.

Yours sincerely

Climate and Energy: Science and Analysis
Department of Energy and Climate Change