

21 Bloomsbury London WC1B 3HF

Benjamin Dean

By email to: request-557869-0ca637a8@whatdotheyknow.com and request-557870-64a3f6f5@whatdotheyknow.com

Our ref: FOI-2019-0011 & 12

1 April 2019

Dear Mr Dean,

Thank you for your email of Sunday 3 March 2019, in which you requested the following information:

"Please provide a copy of the Deed of Variation for PEDL193 and any relevant correspondence with the operator Igas varying the PEDLs work commitments as detailed in your spreadsheet headed "Retention Areas Agreed (Updated December 2018) 2014 Model Clauses.

Please provide a copies of the Deeds of Variation for AL006, DL005, PL079, PL080, PL081 and PEDL177 and any relevant correspondence with the operator Third Energy varying the these licenses work commitments as detailed in your spreadsheet headed "Retention Areas Agreed (Updated December 2018) 2014 Model Clauses."

Your request is being considered under the Environmental Information Regulations 2004 ('the EIRs') on the basis that the information you have sought disclosure of, does in our view, fall within the definition of 'environmental information' as stated in the EIRs.

However, to the extent that any of the information requested may not be environmental, we have also considered your requests under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA). Accordingly, your requests have been dealt with under the terms of the EIRs and the FOIA

We are writing to advise you that the time limit for responding to your request for information needs to be extended.

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Under the EIRs, we are required to respond to requests as soon as possible, and in any case no later than 20 working days after receiving a request. However, by regulation 7 the period of 20 working days may be extended up to a total of 40 working days if we reasonably believe that the complexity and volume of the information requested means that it is impractical to comply with a request within the earlier period or to make a decision to refuse to do so.

In respect of your request, we believe that regulation 7 applies. Therefore, although we shall not be able to respond fully to your request within the 20 working day period, we shall do so as soon as possible within the extended period.

Under the FOIA a public authority is also permitted to extend the period of time in which to reply when it is necessary to consider a test of the public interest.

We hope to provide you with a response by 29 April 2019.

Yours sincerely,

**Strategy Directorate**