



Our ref: EN00156
Your ref: Mr S Birkett

Sent by e-mail to: CleanAir@BTInternet.com

29 July 2008

Dear Mr Birkett

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

We refer to your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) and/or the Environmental Information Regulations (EIR) received by the Olympic Delivery Authority (ODA) on 23 June 2008 requesting the following information:

Please send to me copies of any information held by the ODA that relates in any way to air quality monitoring during the construction phase for each and/or all sites to be associated with the London 2012 Olympic Games and Paralympic Games.

We confirm that we hold information of the description specified in your request. We have provided the following information:

1. The Olympic Park (OP) Dust Monitoring Scheme
2. The Planning Decision Team's approval of the Dust Monitoring Strategy
3. Monthly dust monitoring Reports from the last week of January 2007 until May 2008

You will notice that we have provided you with monthly reports from the last week of January 2007 until May 2008.



department for
culture, media
and sport



MAYOR OF LONDON

Under Regulation 12(4)(d) of the EIR we may refuse to disclose information to a requestor where the request relates to material which is still in the course of completion, unfinished or incomplete. We consider that this exception is engaged by your request in relation to the June 2008 Report because this information is in an unfinished and incomplete state. The exception is qualified and the public interest test must be applied to determine whether the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information. We consider that it would be reasonable and appropriate not to disclose this information before it is finalised and the analysis completed and that, in all the circumstances of the case, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosure of the information at this point in time because the data is still required to go through a ratification process to ensure it meets the stringent quality assurance requirements. The ODA considers that, in view of the fact that the report is due to be completed in early August 2008 the delay would not result in any harm to the public interest but would rather facilitate and ensure accurate interpretation of the data.

When reviewing the reports, the ODA would like you to bear in mind that some of the dust monitoring locations are located immediately adjacent to construction activity and are therefore not necessarily representative of the dust levels experienced by the monitoring points at or near local communities (sensitive receptors) which are further away from the actual construction activity. The data collected at locations immediately adjacent to construction activity, along with meteorological monitoring information (e.g. wind velocity and direction) assists in the interpretation of the data collected at sensitive receptors which then allow for a determination of the likely source of the dust experienced by a specific community. This assists us to identify where remedial action may be necessary and allows us to implement the necessary steps to address the situation.

Under Regulation 6(1)(b) of the EIR a public body is not required to provide information requested if it is already publicly available and easily accessible to the applicant. In view of the fact that the Code of Construction Practice (CoCP) is available at the website described below, the ODA does not consider it necessary to provide you with a hard or soft copy of this document.

<http://www.london2012.com/documents/oda-health-and-safety/code-of-construction-practice-final-low-res.pdf>

Section 6.3.1 of the CoCP makes reference to the fact that Contractors are required to follow Best Practice Guidance issued by the Greater London Authority (GLA) entitled, "The Controls for Dust and Emissions from Construction and Demolition". This document is not an ODA document, but can be found on the GLA website at:

http://www.london.gov.uk/mayor/environment/air_quality/construction-dust.jsp

Although your request for information asked for information in relation to air quality monitoring reports, we believe that it is also important to provide you with information in relation to the remediation and mitigation of dust levels which are monitored. The remediation and mitigation measures used are constantly reviewed and updated, especially where the monitoring data indicates elevated levels of dust.

The site wide mitigation measures used by the ODA and our contractors are detailed in the CoCP. Contractors are also required to identify specific mitigation measures in their Project Environment Management Plans, which are reviewed and approved by the Environment Team and sent to external stakeholders (including the Planning Decisions Team,, Environmental Agency, Local Authority Environmental Health Officers etc.) for consultation. A summary of mitigation measures taken is provided below and in the attached photos and summarised below.

- 8 km of hard-standing internal haul routes to minimise dust levels from construction traffic and ease effective maintenance.
- A full fleet of dust suppression equipment (recently increased to deal with the dry conditions to include 7 Road Sweepers, 10 mobile water bowsers and 7 wheel-washes)
- Improved awareness of dust issues on site through tool box talks
- Decrease in site speed limit from 20mph to 15mph
- Trial of two dust suppression products and successful implementation of Dustbuster 2 (an environmentally-safe binder) on stockpiled areas
- Preventative maintenance of wheel washes (full audit across site)
- Improved dust control for static plant and demolition
- Programme of awareness training for dust awareness

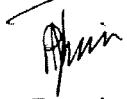
In addition, we have enclosed one of our Contractor's review of dust suppression measures across it's area of the Olympic Park, which was prepared in response to elevated dust levels being recorded in April 2008. The recommended additional actions detailed in the report were immediately implemented on site which resulted in a decrease in the dust levels reported. This was a one off report as a direct response to elevate levels of dust on the northern side of the Olympic park where remedial action was urgently required. While remedial responses to elevated levels of dust are an on-going task, they are currently not recorded in our monthly

reports. It is the ODA's intention that, at some future stage, remedial information will be included in the monthly reports.

We trust that this information satisfies your request for information. However, if you are not satisfied with the response to your request and wish to make a complaint, you should write to The Information Officer, Olympic Delivery Authority, One Churchill Place, Canary Wharf, London, E14 5LN. Please state detailed grounds for your complaint.

If you are not satisfied with the outcome of your complaint, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. Generally, the Information Commissioner will not make a decision unless you have exhausted the complaint procedure provided by the ODA. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: The Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 5AF.

Yours sincerely



Penelope Jarvis
Information Office
Olympic Delivery Authority