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COMMISSION ÉCONOMIQUE POUR L'EUROPE

ЕВРОПЕЙСКАЯ ЭКОНОМИЧЕСКАЯ КОМИССИЯ

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

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Ref: ACCC/C/2013/83 (United Kingdom)

4 December 2013

Mr. Robert Latimer Shell Hill, Bents Rd, Whitburn, Tyne &Wear SR6 7NT, United Kingdom

Dear Mr. Latimer,

Tel:

Re: Communication to the Aarhus Convention Compliance Committee concerning compliance by the United Kingdom with provisions to the Convention on access to environmental information (ACCC/C/2013/83)

At its forty-second meeting (24-27 September 2013), the Compliance Committee noted that the Party concerned had provided its response to the above communication on 3 September 2013, before the deadline of 2 October 2013. With respect to the 2010 study which is the subject of the above communication, at paragraph 60 of its response the Party concerned stated:

"The study was withheld from the communicant under the exceptions in the 2004 Regulations while the infraction proceedings were live but, following the CJEU's judgment it was disclosed to the communicant under cover of a Defra letter of 20 December 2012, along with all other material used in the United Kingdom defence of its case regarding Whitburn."

The Committee would be grateful for your clarification by return as to whether or not the 2010 study has indeed at any stage been disclosed to you. Please send your brief response to the secretariat by email, by 13 December 2013. Depending on your response, the Committee will decide how to proceed with the case at its next meeting (Geneva, 17-20 December 2013). If you would need further time to respond, please do not hesitate to inform the secretariat.

Yours sincerely,

Fiona Marshall

Secretary to the Aarhus Convention Compliance Committee

Permanent Mission of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva

Ms. Ceri Morgan, Head of EU Environment Policy, Department for Environment, Food and Rural, United Kingdom