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12 January 2009

Dr. Åsa Sjöström
EUIC, DEFRA
Area 1B Nobel House, 17 Smith Square
London SW1P 3JR
United Kingdom
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Dear Dr. Sjöström,

Re: Communication to the Aarhus Convention Compliance Committee concerning compliance by the United Kingdom with the provisions of the Convention in connection with costs associated with discharge of an interim injunction (Ref. ACCC/C/2008/23)

At its twenty-second meeting (17-19 December 2008), the Compliance Committee took note of an initial response provided by you on 30 October 2008 at the request of the Committee (ECE/MP.PP/C.1/2008/6, para. 19), which dealt with some of the questions posed in the penultimate paragraph of the letter from the secretariat on behalf of the Committee dated 17 April 2008. It also took note of additional information provided by the communicant.

The Committee considered the options for scheduling its discussion on the substance of the communication in the light of its earlier decision to postpone, at your request and with the agreement of the communicant, the deadline for the Party's response (ECE/MP.PP/C.1/2008/6, para. 19).

Noting the possibility that the communication might be considered alongside communication ACCC/C/2008/27, which also concerned compliance by the United Kingdom with the provisions of article 9 of the Convention, it agreed to address the issue of the timing of the discussions on these two communications at its twenty-third meeting (31 March – 3 April 2009).

Yours sincerely,

Jeremy Wates
Secretary

Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters

Cc: Mr. Paul Stookes, Richard Buxton Environmental & Public Law