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10 September 2012

Ms. Barbara Anning
National Focal Point for the Aarhus Convention
Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs –
EU and International Coordination
Area 1B Nobel House, 17 Smith Square
London SW1P 3JR, United Kingdom

Mr. T Ewing

Dear Ms. Anning, Mr. Ewing,

Re: Communications to the Aarhus Convention Compliance Committee concerning compliance by the United Kingdom (Ref. ACCC/C/2011/61)

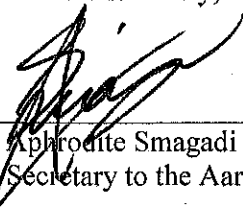
On behalf of the Aarhus Convention Compliance Committee, I would like to thank the participants in the discussion of the above referenced communications at the thirty-seventh meeting of the Compliance Committee (Geneva, 26-29 June 2012).

The report of the meeting, including information concerning the discussion on the communications at issue, is accessible at the following link: <http://www.unece.org/env/pp/ccMeetings.htm>.

You may recall that during the discussion of the communication, the Committee requested the Party concerned to submit some additional information, as detailed in the questions annexed to the present letter. The Party concerned is invited to reply to the question as soon as it can, but no later than **1 October 2012**. If the communicant wishes to react to the responses sent by the Party concerned, he can do so by **8 October 2012**. In providing your responses, please address the questions of the Committee in a brief and explicit manner.

Please do not hesitate to contact the secretariat if you require any further information.

Yours sincerely,


Aphrodite Smagadi
Secretary to the Aarhus Convention Compliance Committee

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

**Annex - Questions to the Party concerned with regard to
communication ACCC/C/2011/61**

- 1) Please provide information on how the requirements of article 6 of the Convention were met, and in particular the requirement of article 6, paragraph 2, by submitting to the Committee a sample of the public notice.
- 2) Please elaborate on the arguments you presented during the discussion about the availability of review procedures and the implementation of article 9, paragraphs 2 and 3, of the Convention, in the present situation of the Crossrail Bill.
- 3) Please clarify who is "directly and specially affected" to submit to Parliament in writing a petition in which they set out their objections to the Bill (section 14 of the Bill) (see also p. 5 of your written statement to the Compliance Committee of 26 June 2012) and clarify the legal situation of the "standing test" in order to submit a petition under the Bill.
- 4) Why was the avenue of the "hybrid bill" the preferred procedure for the Crossrail and what were the alternatives?