

10/05/2021

Dear

**ATISN 15062 – Flexis and Mega+ coal bed methane (090421/COG/FOI/RL/1)**

Thank you for your request which I received on 09/04/2021. You asked for:

1. Copies of all communications sent or received by Professor Ron Loveland or any member of his staff in relation to the aspects of the Flexis Project concerned with unconventional gas production from coal seams. Including any communications sent to, or received from, Welsh Government, Cardiff University, the University of South Wales, Swansea University, Imperial College London, Tata Steel or any of the other project stakeholders or co-venturers.
2. Copies of all communications sent or received by Professor Ron Loveland or any member of his staff in relation to the Mega+ Project. Including any communications sent to, or received from, Welsh Government, Cardiff University, the University of South Wales, Swansea University, Imperial College London, Tata Steel or any of the other project stakeholders or co-venturers.
3. Copies of all agendas, notes and records prepared or received by Professor Ron Loveland or any member of his staff in relation to any meetings with Welsh Government officials and/or any other key stakeholders or co-venturer in which any matters related to the Mega+ Project or aspects of the Flexis Project concerned with unconventional gas production from coal seams were discussed.
4. Copies of all reports prepared or received by Professor Ron Loveland or any member of his staff in relation to the Mega+ Project or aspects of the Flexis Project concerned with unconventional gas production from coal seams.
5. Particulars of the role and responsibilities of Professor Ron Loveland, Energy Adviser to the Welsh Government, in relation to the Relevant Projects.
6. Particulars of the activities of Professor Ron Loveland in relation to the Relevant Projects. Particulars of the activities of Professor Ron Loveland connected with the opportunity to explore for, appraise, produce or secure investment for the development of Coal Bed Methane in Wales since the inception of those projects.
7. During the period since the inception of the Flexis and Mega+ Project, particulars of the ways in which Professor Ron Loveland has been involved in the making, assessment or approval of applications for grant funding for the benefit of the Mega+ or Flexis projects in general, and in particular in relation to the

opportunity to explore for, appraise, produce or secure investment for the development of Coal Bed Methane in the Margam area.

8. Complete and accurate copies of all reports, records and Communications received or sent by Professor Ron Loveland regarding the work undertaken or proposed to be undertaken as part of the FLEXIS Project work package known as “WP10” (Unconventional Gas).
9. A complete and accurate list of all reports and scientific papers published and/or issued by Professor Ron Loveland, whether in draft or in final form, relating to the MEGA+ Project since its inception.
10. Particulars of the ways in which Professor Ron Loveland has been involved in preparing, contributing to, reviewing, approving or responding to reports published by the Relevant Projects in relation to their activities, achievements and priorities. Complete and accurate copies of all communications received or issued by Professor Ron Loveland regarding such reports.
11. Details of all meetings and visits, UK and overseas, made by Professor Ron Loveland in relation (in whole or in part) to Coal Bed Methane together with (1) copies of all reports prepared following those meetings and visits and (2) copies of all Communications relating to those meetings and visits.

## **Our response**

The information you requested is enclosed. Further, in response to question 5 above:

Prof Ron Loveland in his role of the energy adviser to the Welsh Government provides a strategic level oversight of likely future-energy developments at the local, Wales-wide, UK and wider levels but does not advise Ministers or his colleagues on the specific details of any individual commercial-project applications or evaluations

## **Next steps**

If you are dissatisfied with the Welsh Government’s handling of your request, you can ask for an internal review within 40 working days of the date of this response. Requests for an internal review should be addressed to the Welsh Government’s Freedom of Information Officer at:

Information Rights Unit,  
Welsh Government,  
Cathays Park,  
Cardiff,  
CF10 3NQ

or Email: [Freedom.ofinformation@gov.wales](mailto:Freedom.ofinformation@gov.wales)

Please remember to quote the ATISN reference number above.

You also have the right to complain to the Information Commissioner. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF.

However, please note that the Commissioner will not normally investigate a complaint until it has been through our own internal review process.

Yours sincerely