

6 October 2009

Mr Tom Bright
DE Property Directorate
(Sustainable Development)
Room 14, K Block
Foxhill
Bath BA1 5BZ

Our Ref:
Your Ref: D/DE/Property/4/7/01

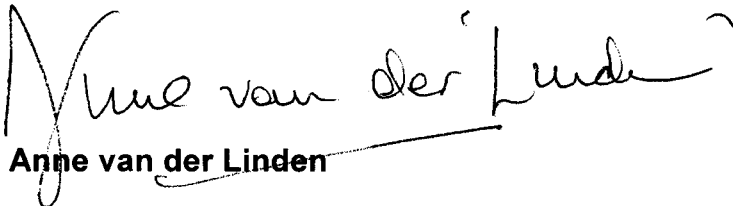
Dear Tom,

**REQUEST FOR CONSIDERATION OF DEFENCE EXEMPTION DIRECTION –
PEGASUS (AWE(A))**

I am replying to your letter of 18 September 2009 to Richard Watson, and have pleasure in enclosing the Direction which you requested, and which has been signed on behalf of the Secretary of State by Shahid Malik.

We should be grateful if you would now let us know when you send this Direction to the local planning authority, or if it is likely to receive any other publicity, so that we can alert our Press Office in case they get any queries.

Yours sincerely,



Anne van der Linden

Defence Estates

DIRECTION UNDER REGULATION 4(4)a)(ii) OF THE TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT) (ENGLAND AND WALES) REGULATIONS 1999.

The Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government has considered the application by the Defence Estates Agency within the Ministry of Defence for a Direction under Regulation 4(4)(a)(ii) of the Town and Country Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) (England and Wales) Regulations 1999 (SI 1999/293) as amended by the Town and Country Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) (Amendment) Regulations 2006 (SI 2006/3295) (referred to hereafter as the EIA Regulations) in respect of a proposed facility for the Storage and Handling of Enriched Uranium (PEGASUS) at the Atomic Weapons Establishment at Aldermaston to replace existing facilities.

Having regard to the information supplied to him, the Secretary of State is satisfied that this Direction is justified because the development forms part of a project serving national defence purposes and, in his opinion, compliance with these regulations would have an adverse effect on those purposes.

Accordingly, in exercise of the powers conferred on him by Regulation 4(4)(a)(ii) of the EIA Regulations, the Secretary of State hereby directs that the requirements of those Regulations shall not apply to the proposal for a replacement facility for the Storage and Handling of Enriched Uranium (PEGASUS) at the Atomic Weapons Establishment at Aldermaston.

In accordance with Regulation 4(4)(b) of the EIA Regulations, a copy of this Direction is being sent to the local planning authority for the area, West Berkshire Council.



Shahid Malik MP
Parliamentary Under Secretary of State

6th October 2009