



Ministry
of Defence

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Peter Burt
Via: peter@nuclearinfo.org

Our Reference:
TO 00248/2014

Date: 10 February 2014

Dear Dr Burt,

Thank you for your email dated 3 January 2014, in which you provided a copy of the Nuclear Information Service's (NIS) annual review into standards of openness and accountability at the Atomic Weapons Establishment (AWE). I have been asked to respond to your email as the Defence Equipment and Support area of the Ministry of Defence (MOD) is responsible for the management and operation of AWE.

I should like to assure you that both the MOD and AWE plc recognise the position of AWE within the local community and that, in particular, local people have a strong and legitimate interest in the safety and security of the AWE sites. We therefore take communications with stakeholders very seriously and will continue to work with AWE plc to make improvements where we believe these will be beneficial.

The issues and conclusions contained in the NIS 2013 progress review of "Opening the Gates: Raising the Standard of Community Liaison at the Atomic Weapons Establishment" have been noted, in particular those relating to AWE, the LLC and MOD. Your intention to publish a similar progress report yearly is also acknowledged.

Yours sincerely,

Sue Ford
Defence Equipment & Support Policy Secretariat