

Internal Review - IR201610587 of EIR201609529

Exception 12(4)(d) - Public Interest Test

- (i) Factors in favour of releasing the material
- The early release of information would demonstrate ONR's commitment to an open reporting culture
 - ONR's decision would not be subject to potential challenge or review
- (ii) Factors against the release of the material
- The information being requested is in the process of being prepared – this cannot be completed until we receive outstanding information which is still to be provided by the licensee.
 - ONR fully intends to produce a report that will include the information that is currently being sought by the requestor
 - ONR intends to publicise the final report on its website within the next couple of months.
 - The report that ONR intends to publicise will present the definitive position on the outcome of ONR's assessment work, bringing together a number of disparate documents which are based upon changing and developing position.
 - The report will be made available to all, rather than an individual, at the same time.
 - Early release of information that is subject to change is likely to result in the wrong conclusions being made and which may prompt further requests which are likely to be satisfied by the final report.
- (iii) Conclusions
- As the Decision Maker I have considered that, to satisfy the public interest test, there should be a presumption in favour of release of material. However, I have weighed the factors against early release recognising that the information will be provided in a report to be placed in the public domain; therefore, consistent with EIR 2004 Regulation 12 (1) (b) I have judged that the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.