Information Released under Freedom of Information

Subject: Services to the wind industry

Date Released: 31/08/2011

Summary of request:
1. In which year did your company start operating in the wind industry?
2. What are the services provided by your company with regard to wind industry?
3. How many employees in your company are currently involved in the wind industry (including management)?
4. In which regions of the UK is your company active (for e.g, North East, North West etc)?

Information released:

1. In which year did your company start operating in the wind industry?
   The Met Office had its very formation in wind forecasting for the maritime industry. We have been developing specific products for the renewable industry for the last 6 years in line with the growth and demand for more accurate information in this sector.

2. What are the services provided by your company with regard to wind industry?
   The Met Office holds this information. We provide site specific forecast services for the wind farms at hub height, on-line visualisation weather displays, site specific historical data. We also provide site specific wind modelling which we refer to as Virtual met mast to help developers assess potential site selection.

   Full details of our products can be found on our website.

3. How many employees in your company are currently involved in the wind industry (including management)?
   The Met Office employs approximately 135 forecasters and as the wind is a vital weather element in some way everyone of them has an interest in wind forecasting. Specific to the renewable products, we estimate around 20 FTE’s.

4. In which regions of the UK is your company active (for e.g, North East, North West etc)?
   The Met Office holds this information, we are active throughout the entire United Kingdom.