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Environment Agency
Horizon House, Deanery Road
Bristol, BS1 5AH

Unique ID: CMS-334
Date: 28 March 2023

Dear Lucy,

Case unique ID number: CMS-334

Thank you for your letter and accompanying indicative public register action plan, dated 17 March 2023. We write further to provide an update following a review of the material provided.

The Complaint

In our letter, dated 20 January 2023, we notified the Environment Agency of a complaint that reported a failure in the Environment Agency's duty to provide a public register in accordance with The Environmental Permitting (England and Wales) Regulations 2016.

Our Assessment

Our assessment of this complaint led us to believe that there was an indication that the Environment Agency may have failed to comply with environmental law and, based on the evidence available at the time, we considered this failure to be potentially serious. We decided not to prioritise this complaint for formal investigation on the understanding that the Environment Agency was developing its online public register, and instead requested information in support of this, to aid our monitoring of the situation.

Following receipt of your letter and indicative action plan, we note that the Environment Agency has acknowledged the concerns raised and the importance of public access to environmental information. We recognise the challenges that you detail in your response and are encouraged by the actions currently being taken, and those future activities proposed in your action plan, to address the concerns raised by this complaint.

Following a subsequent review of all the information provided, the OEP has decided to take no further action in relation to this complaint. This does not preclude us from re-opening or re-assessing this complaint, should new information prompt us to do so, and we will continue to monitor the Environment Agency's progress in relation to this matter. We look forward to your next formal update, to be provided on 17 May 2023.

Your sincerely,



Office for Environmental
Protection

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