

From: EIR Compliance

To:

Subject: 20250507- EIR - Data Supplied

Date: 07 May 2025 13:34:00

Attachments: Diazinon April 25 - Generic locations.xlsx

Reference Number: **EIR 1000**

Dear

We refer to your request for information submitted to Yorkshire Water dated 8 April 2025:

"I am writing to request access to data that Yorkshire Water has on diazinon concentrations from samples collected in 2014-2024 please.

Specifically, I would like to have access to the following data:

[1] Diazinon concentrations in raw water, including surface, groundwater, and catchments, including investigatory samples taken away from the point of abstraction.

[2] Diazinon concentrations measured as part of the National Environment Programme (NEP).

[3] Diazinon concentrations measured by passive sampling in waterways, including rivers.

Could I please also ask that:

[4] River, surface and ground water samples are identified in the supplied dataset.

[5] That information about the location (latitude and longitude) and date and time of sampling is provided.

[6] Metadata regarding the sampling and chemical analyses techniques used, including your estimates of limits of detection (LOD) for diazinon, are provided."

After careful consideration, we are writing to inform you that your request for environmental information has been partially refused in accordance with the Environmental Information Regulations (EIR) 2004. In accordance with section 12(5) paragraph (a) of the EIR, a public authority may refuse to disclose information to the extent that its disclosure would adversely affect international relations, defence, national security or public safety.

In applying this exemption, we must consider the potential harm that could result from releasing the requested information and weigh it against the public interest in disclosure. We have to treat disclosure of information under the Environmental Information Regulations (EIRs) as disclosure to the 'world at large'.

Whilst we appreciate it would be beneficial to obtain this data for your research, we have to consider the wider public interest in disclosure, based on this.

It is our belief that disclosing information could potentially pose a risk to national security. This is because safeguarding national security includes the protection of potential targets, even if there is no evidence that an attack is imminent. The information you have requested form part of the Critical National Infrastructure (CNI) of this country and could be perceived as a potential target for such an attack.

In addition to this, we also have to consider the guidance issued to us by DEFRA on what we can make available in the public domain in relation to our Critical National Infrastructure (CNI).

We recognise the importance of transparency and accountability, and we have carefully considered whether the public interest in disclosure outweighs the potential harm. However, we believe that in this case, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosure. The potential risks associated with releasing the information are too significant to justify its disclosure.

We have liaised with our colleagues to understand for the sample data if there is any information that can be provided to you. In regards to the location of the samples, we have maintained the exemption 12(5)(a) as it is our belief that releasing the exact location data could potentially pose a risk to public safety and have therefore taken the decision to provide you the generalised area for the location to reduce the level of detail or precision available where the granularity of the data increases the security risk.

Please find attached the data which you have requested. Included with this email are the diazinon results from 2020 onwards. We do not hold data for the other years you requested this data. As such for the purpose of EIR we applied exemption 12(4)(a), a public authority may refuse to disclose information to the extent that it does not hold that information when an applicant's request is received. The results are taken from untreated water sources and so any data that is above the drinking water standard in the raw water will be mitigated downstream at the water treatment works through blending with low concentration sources and through treatment processes.

Our laboratory analysis is carried out by an independent UKAS accredited partner organisation. They have advised us that the limit of quantification (LOQ) is 0.007 ug/l and the stability is 21 days.

We trust that the provision of this data satisfies your request. In accordance with the Environmental Information Regulations 2004, if you are not satisfied with this reply to your request you can ask for an internal review. A request for an internal review must be submitted within 40 working days by contacting the Data Protection Team.

Thank you for contacting Yorkshire Water.

Yours sincerely,

Data Protection Team

Email: EIR@Yorkshirewater.co.uk