Department
for Business
Innovation & Skills

Export Control Organisation
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E **chris.chew@bis.gsi.gov.uk**

www.gov.uk/bis
Our ref: 14/0667
Your ref:

16 May 2014

Edin Omanovic
Research Officer
Privacy International
62 Britton Street
London EC1M 5UY
(edin@privacy.org)

Dear Edin Omanovic

Thank you for your email of 24 April 2014 in which you requested the following information relating to export licences (I quote):

> **I would like to make a FOI request about a specific classification. In a 2011 article in the UK 'Guardian', available at http://www.theguardian.com/uk/2011/oct/30/metropolitan-police-mobile-phone-surveillance, it is stated that a request for an export license by the Leeds based company 'Datong' was refused by BIS because it was judged that the potential transfer could facilitate human rights abuses.**
>
> In 2009 it was refused an export licence to ship technology worth £0.8m to an unnamed Asia Pacific country, after the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills judged it could be used to commit human rights abuses.
>
> **Can you please confirm under which specific category of the UK consolidated list the technology was required to have an export license? If possible, can you also confirm the description of the items?**

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 ('the Act'), you have the right to:

- know whether we hold the information you require
- be provided with that information (subject to any exemptions under the Act which may apply).

I am writing to advise you that, following a search of our paper and electronic records, I have established that this Department holds information falling within scope of your request.

You ask us to "*confirm under which specific category of the UK consolidated list the technology was required to have an export license…(and)….also confirm the description of the items*". The attached spreadsheet includes details for two Standard Individual Export Licences (SIELs)

refused for Datong in 2009 including a summary description (Goods Annual Report Summary) and the rating of the goods for each licence.

Should you wish to pursue any matters concerning this letter, please contact me.

Appeals Procedure

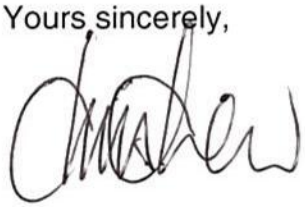
If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to ask for an internal review. Internal review requests should be submitted within two months of the date of receipt of the response to your original letter and should be sent to the Information Rights Unit at:

Information Rights Unit
Department for Business, Innovation & Skills
1 Victoria Street
London
SW1H 0ET
E-mail: foi.requests@bis.gsi.gov.uk

Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications.

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF

Yours sincerely,



Chris Chew
Head of Policy Unit, Export Control Organisation