

Jeremy Beeton

Department for Culture Media and Sport
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cc.
Neale Coleman, GLA
John Armit, ODA
David Higgins, ODA
Paul Deighton, LOCOG

25 September 2009

Dear Jeremy,

The Commission for a Sustainable London 2012 has been asked to confirm that the recommendation to be put forward by the ODA to OBSG to procure chillers that use HFCs for the Main Stadium is in compliance with the policy approved by the Olympic Board in June 2009. This responds to recommendations in the Commission's 2007 and 2008 Annual Reviews.

We confirm that the recommendation is in compliance with the policy and we have been impressed with the diligence with which the ODA has endeavoured to avoid HFC use where possible, particularly to apply an ammonia chilling solution to the Aquatic Centre. Together with the early inclusion of ammonia in the Energy Centre and the avoidance of any cooling in the Velodrome, the Olympic Park facilities are substantially HFC-free.

This subject has created some interest within the specialist media and we have been lobbied by different special interest groups making the case for and against use of HFCs. The London 2012 HFC policy has not yet been published, despite our numerous requests to do so. We strongly recommend that the policy is published as soon as possible and that the ODA make a public statement explaining their decision. We are prepared to publicly state our confirmation that the ODA's decisions are in compliance with the policy.

We understand that lower Global Warming Potential (GWP) 'drop in' refrigerants are being developed by industry. We expect the ODA and its delivery partner to monitor developments in this field and to ensure that lower GWP alternatives are used if they become available before the Games. We would also expect lower GWP alternatives to be considered in legacy, and we expect an exemplary maintenance regime to be followed to avoid release of HFC refrigerants in use.

We hope that this helps to bring the HFC issue to a satisfactory conclusion.

Yours sincerely



Shaun McCarthy
Chair
Commission for a Sustainable London 2012