

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** [UKRI FOI Requests](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Freedom of Information request - Number of Hydrofrac Earthquakes in Lancashire recorded since 01/01/2017 (Our ref: IDA 274284)  
**Date:** 21 April 2020 18:00:00  
**Attachments:** [274284.xlsx](#)

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Dear [REDACTED]

Our ref: IDA 274284

Thank you for your request made under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. Since your enquiry concerns environmental information we have considered it under the terms of the Environmental Information Regulations 2004.

You asked for the number of homes in Lancashire reported to us over the weeks following the '2020 Bank Holiday Weekend Hydrofrac Earthquakes' as having sustained damage as a result of these seismic events and also where they are located. We clarified in a subsequent email that you intended this to be the '2019 bank holiday weekend'. Please find attached a spreadsheet containing the details of all of the reports for this event where damage was reported. There are 208.

The postcode field, that gives an indication of location, has been truncated to the first part of the postcode only. This is because the full postcode could, under some circumstances, identify individuals and therefore be considered personal information which is exempt under Regulation 12(3) and Regulation 13 of the Environmental Information Regulations. Regulation 12(3) provides that third party personal data can only be disclosed in accordance with Regulation 13. Specifically regulation 13(1) provides an exception for information which is the personal data of an individual other than the applicant and where one of the conditions listed in regulations 13(2) or 13(3) is satisfied. One of the conditions, listed in regulation 13(2)(a)(i) is where disclosure to any member of the public would contravene any of the data protection principles as set out in the Data Protection Act. We believe that releasing the full postcode would breach the first data protection principle of lawfulness, fairness and transparency.

I hope this fully answers your questions. If you feel we have failed to comply with your request in accordance with the requirements of the Regulations, you have the right to ask for an internal review (Regulation 11). Internal review requests should be submitted in writing within 40 working days after the date on which you believe we failed to comply with the requirements – normally the date of receipt of our response to your request. This should be addressed to The Complaints Officer at NERC, Polaris House, North Star Avenue, Swindon, Wilts SN2 1EU. There is no charge for this review.

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 then have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at the Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF. Telephone: 08456 306060, or: 01625 545745. Website: <https://ico.org.uk/>

Regards

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
Enquiry Service Manager  
British Geological Survey  
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Nottingham  
NG12 5GG

Tel: [REDACTED]  
[enquiries@bgs.ac.uk](mailto:enquiries@bgs.ac.uk)

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: 23 March 2020 17:07

To: enquiries <enquiries@bgs.ac.uk>

Subject: Re: Freedom of Information request - Number of Hydrofrac Earthquakes in Lancashire recorded since 01/01/2017

Dear British Geological Survey,

Many thanks for your response and explanations.

May I ask a further question relating to the 2020 Bank Holiday Weekend Hydrofrac Earthquakes namely, how many homes in Lancashire were reported to you over the following weeks as having sustained damage as a result of these seismic events and where were these properties located?

Yours faithfully,

[REDACTED]

-----Original Message-----

Thank you for contacting the BGS Enquiries Service.

Your email has been forwarded to a member of the team to deal with. Our response time will vary depending on the nature of your enquiry and the availability of staff with the relevant expertise, but we will endeavour to reply as soon as possible.

Please note our business hours are 09.00hrs to 16:30hrs, Monday to Friday.

Please tell us what you think of our service and whether or not you would like BGS to contact you in future, with information on events, products and services by filling in the short questionnaire [1]here.

Kind regards

The BGS Enquiries Service

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## References

### Visible links

1. <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/2F8VP3T>

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Please use this email address for all replies to this request:

[REDACTED]

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