



Department
of Energy &
Climate Change

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Joanne Mudhar
Director
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Dear Ms Mudhar,

Thank you for your e-mail dated 5 July to my predecessor Gregory Barker, enclosing the briefing paper on Soil Carbon Sequestration.

I have noted your plans to use 'mob grazing' as a method to sequester carbon. However, at this time there is lack of evidence demonstrating the effectiveness of solid carbon sequestration, as well as there being potential for soil damage through excessive poaching (trampling) caused by high stocking densities.

Defra has been funding research looking into carbon sequestration opportunities since 2002 and we have found that there are very limited opportunities for sequestering carbon in soils under UK conditions.

Thank you also for informing us of the 'Putting the Grasslands to Work' conference taking place in London between 1 and 2 August. Regrettably, my diary commitments prevent me from being able to accept your kind invitation on this occasion.

Yours sincerely,

AMBER RUDD