

The Rt Hon Lord Drayson PhD
Minister for Science and Innovation

Lord Krebs
House of Lords
Westminster
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31st August 2009

Dear John

In follow up to the evidence that I gave to the House of Lords Science and Technology Sub-Committee on 7 July 2009 you asked me to investigate the existence of a central database for health and safety information. Having consulted with colleagues from the Health and Safety Executive I can now confirm that whilst there is no central UK database as described, the OECD's Working Party on Manufactured Nanomaterials has developed a database of global research conducted into the safety of manufactured nanomaterials. The recently-launched database provides a comprehensive inventory of information on international research projects and aims to support the evidence base, highlight knowledge gaps and facilitate a joined-up approach to further research. Additionally, the monitoring and safety of nanotechnology products is something that we are considering as part of our evidence gathering to inform the UK Strategy for Nanotechnologies.

I hope that this information is useful in your inquiries.

Yours ever
Paul

**LORD DRAYSON
MINISTER FOR SCIENCE AND INNOVATION**