BURGHFIELD

LOCKDOWN!

Briefing.....

BURGHFIELD LOCKDOWN
SCRAP TRIDENT!
Blockade AWE BURGHFIELD
Monday 2nd March 2015
Start 7.00am - Finish some
days later......



CONTENTS: Intro – Maps - Legal –Transport Accommodation – Tactics – Contacts – Bust Cards –
Training workshops – Guidelines – Non Violence –
Support – Requests – Food – & much more.



Welcome to the 'BURGHFIELD LOCKDOWN' briefing, explaining where, when, how and why we will block access to the UK's nuclear weapons factory, AWE Burghfield near Reading in Berkshire on Monday 2nd March 2015, with a blockade which will begin a month of sustained direct action against the renewal of Trident in the lead up to the UK's 2015 General

Election. Please read through this briefing and pass the message on far and wide.

We ask you to join us on 2nd March to send a loud and clear signal to government that taxpayers' money must be spent on human needs not illegal out of date weapons of mass destruction.

Recent reports suggest the UK's nuclear weapons program could be renewed in 2016 without democratic process. This cannot be allowed to happen.

"The is try Tride throughout"

rch to

Resist
the Nuclear
State, with
Love not
Hate

The government
is trying to slip
Trident replacement
through the back

CND's Kate Hudson.



Action AWE is supported by CND, Lush, Greenpeace, Campaign Against Arms Trade, SWAN, WiB, Trident Ploughshares, AWPC and many more.....

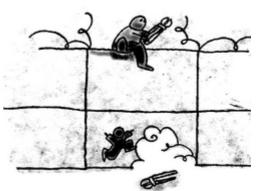
General enquiries: 0845 4588 362 or burghfieldlockdown@actionawe.org

INTRO & BACKGROUND

Action AWE is a grassroots Direct Action campaign, started in 2012 to actively protest against the UK's nuclear weapons system Trident, its renewal, the shameful cost in the face of government cuts to critical services – and its existence in breach of international and humanitarian law and agreements.

Trident is a hugely profitable asset for arms manufacturers and dealers and other businesses involved in the chain of support and development of nuclear weapons of mass destruction.

Directly linked to climate change, conventional wars, imperialistic government, poverty – at home and abroad and a range of issues causing problems in the world today, without ever being used Trident is a threat to National Security. Should it ever be detonated, accidentally or deliberately, it would be catastrophic for the entire planet and all life on it, with each warhead being 100 times more powerful than the bombs that destroyed Hiroshima and Nagasaki.



No sitting on the fence here at Action AWE, well, not for too long....busy.....got important things to do!

A treaty banning nuclear weapons is supported by 150 governments worldwide and is a global humanitarian imperative of the highest order. Action AWE urges the UK to act responsibily and to support this proposed treaty.

Trident is a submarine based nuclear weapon system the UK government operates from bases at Faslane and Coulport in Scotland, which is a contentious issue for most Scots as they don't want it. The majority of people in England, Wales and Northern Ireland wouldn't want it on their doorsteps either. The desperation with which Westminster politicians fought against the prospect of Scottish Independence recently was largely their reaction to the promise from an independent Scotland that it would eject Westminster's Trident nuclear weapons system from Scotland. Attempts were made to sniff out a new doorstep to dump Trident on for some time prior to the Scottish independence vote.....but unsurprisingly there were no takers. A homeless nuclear weapons system in the hands of Westminster politicians was a possibility they had to squash at any price.

Trident missiles are leased from the United States. The missiles are loaded with nuclear warheads manufactured by a private company, AWE Management Limited (AWEML) who operate two factories, AWE Aldermaston & AWE Burghfield near Reading in Berkshire. Aldermaston produces the ingredients for nuclear warheads, Burghfield assembles them.

Nuclear warheads are regularly on the move up and down the UK between the AWE (Atomic Weapons Establishment) factories in Berkshire, Coulport nuclear weapons store and Faslane submarine base in Scotland. The Ministry of Defence admits there are risks to the public attached to the movement of these weapons.

The current Trident system has been declared too old for use after 2020 – but subsequent plans have been made to extend its life beyond its 'use by date' on financial grounds. 2020 would be an opportune time for the UK to give up nuclear weapons and meet international nuclear disarmament agreements it has signed up to, but the three main political parties have all declared they intend to opt for a replacement. They believe it's more important to be a 'global military power' through nuclear capability than to spend the money on public services and domestic investment in the UK.

The government has already given hundreds of millions of pounds to companies preparing to develop new nuclear weapons and build new infrastructure to support them. The expansion plans at AWE Burghfield have been compared in size to the development of a third runway at Heathrow airport. It is the biggest current construction project in the UK.

The clock is ticking, decisions will soon be made and our money spent on something useless to society and its security. Politicians of all parties campaigning for election in 2015 must be made to understand that the people they want to represent **DO NOT WANT THEIR MONEY SPENT ON NUCLEAR WEAPONS.**

Please join us....



The Plan

Burghfield Lockdown is the first public event in a month of daily action at the site so we are planning something a little different to a usual blockade. We are not fixing an end time for the event......a support team will be based locally for as long as blockaders or other disruptors can arrange to get to the site.

As the date draws nearer, interested parties can let us know – via letters wrapped in tinfoil, coded smoke signal or encrypted carrier pigeon, that they might need support over an extended time frame. We are suggesting that following on from the first wave of blockaders others may like to arrive later in the day....or even the day after...

The blockade will begin at 7.00am. The plan is to close both entrances to the site at the same time by non-violently sitting or lying across the entrances using lockon equipment and/or vehicles, props and other materials to create 'roadblocks'.

The blockading can be on an ad hoc basis or by strategic planning. Both are welcomed – the latter requiring some discussion of tactics nearer the date as there are up to five locations in lanes around the base which may need blocking.

We need legal observers and encourage witnesses, supporters and protesters who don't want to be arrested to come. There are many roles for non-arrestable people in the lead up to the blockade and at the event. Please let us know if you can help. Past experience has shown that arrest of supporters and observers is extremely unlikely. Usually only people refusing to move from the road are threatened with arrest, and only arrested following a refusal to move.



Training

Action AWE will provide nonviolence workshops for those wanting to acquire confident knowledge and understanding of nonviolent protest through role play, tactical methods & rehearsals. We will also run through legal issues, forming affinity groups and explain all aspects of blockading if required.

Contact us if you'd like to book a training day or find one near you to attend.

Phone 0845 4588 362
Email: burghfieldlockdown@actionawe.org



Nonviolence Guidelines

Everyone taking part in the blockade is asked to respect and follow these guidelines

- Our attitude will be one of sincerity and respect towards the people we encounter
- We will not engage in physical violence or verbal abuse toward any individual
- We will not carry any weapons
- We will not bring or use alcohol or drugs other than for medical purposes
- We will clear the blockade to allow emergency vehicles in or out of the site and resume the blockade afterwards

Affinity Groups

We recommend that everyone attending the blockade in whatever role (whether blockading and risking arrest or supporting or monitoring the event) is in an affinity group of between 6 to 16 people.

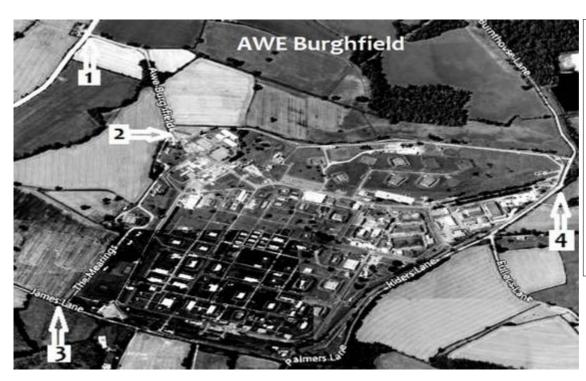
Those risking arrest are advised to give their details to our legal support team if/when they are arrested so that we can help with providing support during and after their arrest. We need this information to be able to monitor the situation and also to have accurate information for the press.

The supporters in the affinity group will, as necessary, supply food, drinks, weather protection and help look after the blockaders property. They will also need to provide legal observers to liaise with our legal support team. The more self-sufficient each affinity group is the better as this strengthens the blockade as a whole.

Affinity groups can be mobile on the day, moving from one location to another as a blockade is cleared. It is good strategy to have a fast decision making process in place so the group can make on the spot decisions about what action to take in any situation. Groups can also do local media work and take photos or film of the event.

Existing affinity groups can and sometimes will make surprise arrivals at a blockade at times and places of their choice.

Satellite & other pics



AWE Burghfield satellite image on left:

- The Mearings, north entrance to the Main Gate
- 2. AWE Main Gate
- 3. The Mearings, south entrance to the Main Gate
- 4. Construction Gate, Burnthouse Lane



Previous blockade at Construction Gate, traffic queueing from Rider's Lane



Below pic - Construction Gate at AWE Burghfield. Photo taken after driving via Rider's Lane towards Burnthouse Lane.



Below – road blockade with car in the north entrance to The Mearings



More photos of blockades in the lanes around AWE Burghfield are at http://actionawe.org/action-awe-picture-galleries/

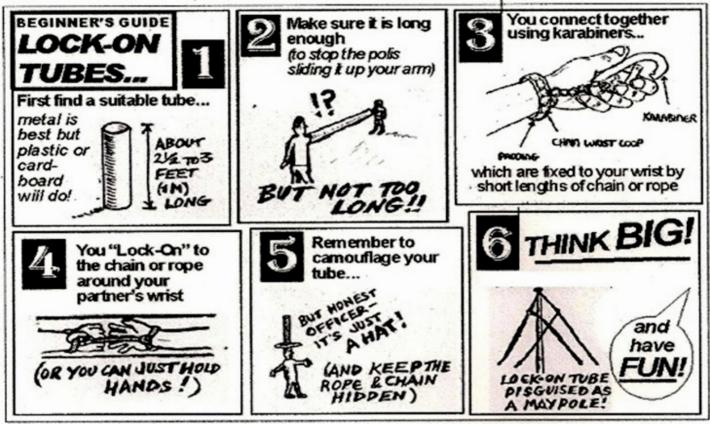


The Main Gate entrance at Burghfield is very wide, off a mini roundabout in The Mearings with a carpark to the left of this shot, and a covered search area also just out of view on the left. Many more pics of Main Gate at: http://actionawe.org/awe-burghfield-maps-gates/

Lock-ons & other disruptive tactics

In the past people have blockaded by standing, sitting or lying across the road with their arms linked. People often go limp when arrested, making it harder for the police to move them off the road. Affinity groups have chained themselves to each other or to objects, including cars. To make it more difficult for police to cut chains people join hands through a metal, plastic orcardboard tube, using karabiners (climbing clips) attached to chains or rope around their wrists. Concrete has been used in objects from caravans to wheelie bins to form lock-ons in the past.

Tubes need to be long enough to prevent the police sliding them along your arm to reveal the karabiner or rope. They need to be disguised if possible as the police have in the past seized lock-on equipment and/or arrested those carrying it before they get to a blockade. Tubes can be disguised as part of a fancy dress costume, street theatre props, dummy missiles, or in old rucksacks - use your imagination! In addition to lock-ons there are numerous ways to block entrances, using tripods, or vehicles which are left without a driver and with people locked on in various ways. To see pics of blockading tactics visit http://actionawe.org/direct-action-ideas for general blockading pics and inspiration see http://www.faslane365.org/photos



Many campaigns offer Direct Action ideas and tactics. Action AWE has a great selection of downloadable guides and handbooks at: http://actionawe.org/direct-action-handbooks/ If you'd like to organise an NVDA (nonviolent direct action) workshop and need a facilitator please let us know. Phone 0845 4588 362 or email burghfieldlockdown@actionawe.org



Action AWE: Burghfield Lockdown Legal Briefing

This is not a legal document. If you need legal advice, ask a lawyer
Knowledge is power: Take responsibility for your own actions, read this legal briefing.

More detailed information is available at

http://www.activistslegalproject.org.uk/Offences5.pdf

and http://greenandblackcross.org/node/13

If you need legal advice, ring a lawyer.

STOP AND SEARCH

You may be searched on your way to an action. Searches are often used to gather information about protesters, as well as a tactic to pre-empt protest. You do not have to give your name and address (or any other information), unless you are driving a vehicle, or if you have been arrested. Don't be on a database! You do not need to be. Be calm but firm. Ask for a copy of the search record, and the powers under which you have been searched. If searches become a problem, we will add full details of police stop and search powers to this briefing. For more details, see http://greenandblackcross.org/legal/resources/stopandsearch

What could you be arrested for?

Obstruction of the Highway (Highways Act1980, Section 137).

It is an offence to cause "a wilful obstruction of the highway without lawful authority or excuse". If you obstruct the highway you may be arrested. You may be warned first. Or not. If you obstruct gateways at Burghfield, you may also be obstructing the highway, if cars are queueing back into the main road. The road past the main Burghfield Gate, called The Meerings, is not a public highway, but is often treated as such by the police. Some people have been acquitted on the grounds that The Meerings is not a public highway. However, on The Meerings or at the back gate you could also be charged under **Article 7(a)**, **AWE Burghfield Byelaws** for obstructing "a lawful user or any other person acting in the proper exercise of his duty" in the "Controlled Area". See blue area of map: http://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2010/249/pdfs/uksi 20100249 en.pdf

Penalty: fines of between £25-£50, plus £15 surcharge for victim support and £25-£50 costs have been imposed after recent blockades at Burghfield; others have been given suspended sentences or a conditional discharge. First offenders and non-UK nationals may be offered cautions.

Obstruction/resisting a police officer in the execution of his/her duty (Police Act 1996, s.89(2))

Offences include a "failure to move when required to do so", or any other act that the police may perceive as obstructing them in their duty to arrest you. Slightly more serious offence. **Penalty:** this is a more serious offence than the above and fines will be higher.

Serious Organised Crime and Police Act, s.128 (in conjunction with Terrorism Act 2006).

AWE Burghfield is a "designated" nuclear licensed site. You may be arrested under SOCPA if you enter, or trespass on, the "protected area". Almost all of AWE Burghfield is covered by SOCPA, see pink shaded area on map at: http://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2010/249/made

Penalty: no previous arrests or convictions for this at Burghfield, so level of fine hard to estimate.

Breach of the Peace (BoP) is not a criminal offence, but you can be arrested to prevent a BoP. A BoP includes the threat of violence against a person or their property. Even if you are nonviolent, you may be arrested if the police think your actions may cause others to be violent to you. You may be "bound over" to keep the peace. You might just be taken to a police station, and then released without charge when the possible BoP/action is over; or they might just kettle you.

Penalty: none (apart from some time in a police van/cell/kettle).

Transport & travel

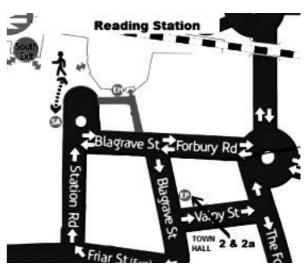
AWE Burghfield is on OS Explorer Map 159 Reading, Wokingham and Pangbourne

If using public transport to get to Burghfield take a train or bus to Reading and then switch to a local Burghfield bus. There are no trains to Burghfield, the nearest railway station is Mortimer which is a 3 mile walk from AWE but Mortimer could be useful for anyone who likes a walk or wants to bring a bike! Reading train and bus station are very close together for switching from bus to train or bus to bus. For train times & bookings see www.trainline.com

To Burghfield by bus from Reading: From Reading Railway Station walk to Blagrave Street bus stop, on map below

Catch Reading Bus 2 or 2A - Journey time around 35 minutes

- Traveline: http://traveline.info/ a very useful site with printable directions, timetables and maps showing bus stops.
- Search under: South East including London or South West plan a journey.
- Use these **search terms** for exact bus timetables.
- a) Reading Town Centre Blargrave Street stop
- b) Burghfield The Mearings stop, or Amners Farm stop ,or Burghfield st Mary's church stop
- c) Brimpton Common AWE Main Gate (Aldermaston)
- Click on timetable and all stops for most up to date times.

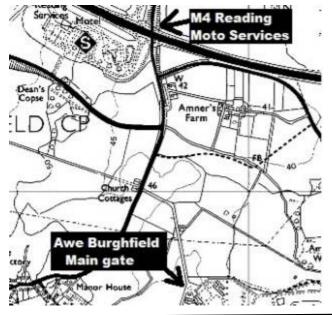


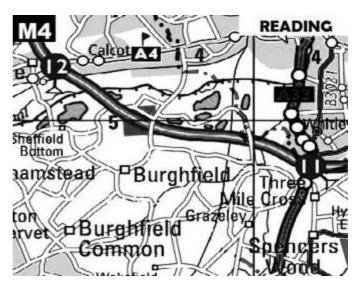
Get off the bus at: Burghfield Amners Farm Road stop, The Mearings stop, OR Burghfield St Mary's Church stop. To/from Basingstoke by train or bus: Get off train or bus at Basingstoke, take a train to Reading (Journey about 15 mins) and use directions above. Bus & train stations in Basingstoke are 5 minutes walk from each other.

By Road - Car, bike, minibus etc.

AWE Burghfield is between junctions 11 & 12 of the M4, just south of the motorway. It is about half a mile from Reading motorway services. It is possible to walk from the services to the base but there is no exit for vehicles. A service road exiting the site is blocked by a coded barrier. If you leave the M4 at Junction 11 the route to Burghfield is through Reading west on the A4/Bath Road, and eventually left down Burghfield Rd.

From the Junction 12 exit on the M4 there are a variety of ways to get to Burghfield using small lanes in addition to the signed route from AWE Aldermaston.





If you're coming from the south, southeast or southwest and will be using the M3 and/or Basingstoke: From the M3, exit at Junction 6 on to the A339 towards Basingstoke. From here are two main choices:

- 1. take the 3rd exit off the A339 at Basingstoke on to the A33. About half a mile before the M4 at Three Mile Cross turn left into Mereoak Lane, then Goring Lane and finally Fullers Lane. This will bring you very close to AWE Burghfield's Construction Gate.
- **2. take the 4**th **exit off the A339 at Basingstoke** on to the A340 Aldermaston Road. Follow A340 to AWE Aldermaston, turn right past AWE Aldermaston main gate and follow the signs to Burghfield.

Parking

Reading Motorway Services are a 15 to 20 minute walk from the base. It is recommended that if at all possible supporters and visitors to the blockade park in the motorway services and walk from the rear access road to AWE Burghfield (you can see AWE from the services) as parking in the narrow lanes around the base and Burghfield village is difficult. There is a large visitor carpark at AWE Burghfield.....but if everything goes according to plan that carpark won't be accessible on 2nd March.

If people are unable to walk there is limited parking in one or two lanes in Burghfield village. Disabled people with mobility problems may need to arrange to be dropped off if they have a driver who can then move on and find parking. If you are intending to park your car across one of the entrances to AWE Burghfield and refuse to move it......just go for it and get as close as you can to the gates[©]

People intending to stay at the blockade for a while may consider parking near Reading bus station and getting a No.2 or 2a bus to Burghfield.

Support minibus

A minibus will be available locally throughout the event should anyone need transport whilst attending the convergence centre, the blockade, or post blockade to or from police stations or court. We need additional drivers to assist with transport in their own vehicles. If you'd like to volunteer please let us know.

Convergence Centre - Reading Quaker Meeting House, 2 Church St., Reading, RG1 1SB

Training and workshops will start at 3.00pm on Sunday 1st March and finish around 8.00pm. The Meeting House has step free access and toilets.

Getting to the Meeting House on foot or bike

The meeting House is close to Reading town centre. From Broad Street head east and then turn south down Duke Street and over the old hump back bridge to the east of the Oracle. Cross the dual carriageway and head up London Street. Look out for a sign to 'Quaker Meeting House' pointing down an alley to the right. This opens out into Church Street and the Meeting House is through a black double iron gate on your right.

By train and then on foot or by bus

The Meeting House is a 20 minute walk from the station. Walk up Station Road and Queen Victoria Street to Broad Street, turn left into Broad Street and then follow the directions above.

By Car

Church Street is a cul-de-sac. If you need to drop someone at the gate of the Meeting House, turn right off Southampton Street into Deansgate Road (just after St.Giles Church), then turn right and then left into Church Street. The Meeting HOuse is near the end on the left. During the day you can park for up to two hours on a meter in London Street (cost 50p per 20 minutes), or in the Oracle Shopping Centre car park or Queens Road car park. Parking on London Street is free between 8.00pm and 8.00am.

At the Convergence Centre people can register if they haven't already done so, a Registration Form is on pages 10 & 11 of this briefing, or online at www.actionawe.org/lockdownregistration. People are strongly requested to register in advance if wanting food, accommodation or legal support.

Joining Affinity Groups, strategy planning, creating last minute props, banners etc, various training if required, good vegan food & good company will all be available from 3.00pm Sunday March 1st in advance of what will be a busy and successful blockade.

Reading Station Forbury Rd lalmaison Reading Valpy St riar St Town Hall Square Place Square Reading Central Library Minster St Of (m) The Oracle (A) Bella Italia (11 11) Cote Bras Vue Cinemas III Reading Meeting House Church Street

Toilet facilities at the blockade

Loos are available at the motorway services and some camping loos will be on site. We will try to provide toilet tents near likely blockading points but groups are advised to 'go equipped' with a tarp and bucket etc. in case of emergencies.

If you have any concerns, issues or needs regarding Burghfield Lockdown that you'd like to talk over with someone please get in touch with us by email at burghfieldlockdown@actionawe.org or phone us on:

Accommodation

Overnight accommodation will be provided for people who need it on Sunday 1st, and/or Monday 2nd but you must register with us and let us know so we can arrange it. The accommodation may be in one of the convergence centres or by arrangement in someone's house for those who are unable to camp on the floor with a sleeping bag. A Burghfield Lockdown registration form is on the AAWE Website at www.actionawe.org/lockdownregistration and also on pages 10 & 11 of this briefing. The registration form will let you tell us what sort of accommodation you need and for how many people. Personal possessions, sleeping bags etc. can be securely left in the convergence centre during the blockade, and if you are arrested they will be safe until you can pick them up.

Food

Meals and drinks will be provided at the convergence centre/s. Food will be vegan. A contribution to the cost of food and accommodation will be welcomed as our funds are low. If anyone can contribute to Burghfield Lockdown blockade funds now, please see www.actionawe.org/donate or see details at bottom of this page.

During the blockade there will be people on site with hot and cold drinks and food, but it is suggested that those coming for the day bring food with them in case supplies run out.

The motorway services are always open for emergency supplies, and shops in Burghfield Common (about 2 miles from AWE Burghfield), include a pharmacy.

Briefings before Burghfield Lockdown

If at all possible and for the most possible effectiveness we encourage groups to prepare well before the blockade date and to be in touch with us for training in the safety and convenience of your own area. You can then join the blockade 'unannounced' at 7.00 am on 2nd March. However, for those groups or people who have not managed to prepare beforehand there will be several briefings taking place on Sunday 1st March at the convergence centre from 3.00 pm onwards. When you register we will confirm where the convergence centre will be.

Registration

We need registration for working out accommodation and training in the convergence centre and to be able to provide effective Legal Support. Anyone wanting accommodation or food should register in advance. Those requiring Legal Support on the day can complete a registration form, (there's one on pages 10 & 11 of this briefing) and send in advance or submit a registration online at www.actionawe.org/lockdownregistration

Requests

- We don't have facilities for young children or animals at convergence centres so please don't bring them. In blockading areas please ensure they are fully under your care and responsibility at all times.
- Please don't come under the influence of alcohol or drugs and please don't bring either with you, except prescribed medication.
- Any donations towards expenses gratefully received. Ways to donate are on our www.actionawe.org/donate page or at a registration point at the event. Our bank details are below if you'd like to make a direct bank transfer or payment.

DONATE

We rely on donations to fund this campaign. If you wish to support Action AWE with financial help you can make a payment directly into our bank, send a cheque or donate online via PayPal. For cheques see address on the right. Any help at all will be very gratefully received.

BANK DETAILS

Co-operative Bank Name: ACTION AWE Account number: 65588101 Sort code: 08 92 99

BIC = CPBK GB22

IBAN = GB17 CPBK 089299 65588101

CONTACT US

Action AWE 6 Church St, Knighton, Powys, LD7 1AG

Phone 0845 4588 362

Email: burghfieldlockdown@actionawe.org

Burghfeld Lockdown Regstration for 2nd March 2015

(Please write or print clearly)

Could everyone complete Part 1 of this form and anyone who might want or need Legal Support also answer Part 2

Part 1

1.1							
Name	Address						
Phone/Mobile		Email					
1.2							
Country of origin	Nationalit	ty	Languages				
l . 3							
Will you arrive at the convergen Sunday 1 st afternoon and want t nonviolence training & briefing	Will you want accommodation on the floor at the convergence centre on						
YES NO		Sunday night Monday night					
			YES	NO	N	'ES NO	
							1
Do you need a bed to be found select this option if really need	•	person's h	ome (be	ds are ver	y limited, pl	ease only	
server and option in really need	<u>Su</u>	ınday night	7		Monday nigl	<u>n</u> t	
		YES NO			YES NO		
1.4		L				_	
Will you travel by car or minibu like collecting people from bus				er be availa	able to help	with essentia	l things
Sunday 1 st		Monday 2 nd		Tue	Tuesday 3rd		
YES NO	Y	'ES N	Ю		YES	S NO	
		l				1	
.5							
The name and contact details of	of one person wh	o needs to	be infor	med in ca	se of emerg	gencies	
1.6							
Can Action AWE add your contac	t details to our da	tabase for: Occasional mailings YES NO					
	Fı	uture legal a	and cou	rt support	YES	NO	

If you have answered yes to either question in 1.6 above, please sign below:

Burghfeld Lockdown Regstration for 2nd March 2015

Part 2 – Legal support

2.1

Will you go straight to the blockade without visiting a convergence centre for a briefing or training. YES NO	Do you want one person notified if you are held overnight. If yes please give their name and contact details					
name of your group and a mobile phone number for one of the group acting as support	wou are not in an affinity group ease give the name and mobile ntact for a person or group you with, if any Would you like to find a group to join before attending the blockade? YES NO					
Gender Male Female	Or - How will the police define you?					
For non UK nationals, would you like your consulate notified if you are detained at a police station or on the orders of a court? YES NO	Do you need an interpreter at a police station or court? YES NO					
Do you have any legal complications or individual circumstances you would like us to know about – existing legal situation – warrants, bail, health or disability concerns? If yes, please tell us below:						
If sending this form by post, please send to; Action AWE, 6 Church Street, Knighton, Powys, LD7 1AG, UK Alternately, the form is online at http://www.actionawe.org/lockdownregistration						