

s 9(2)(a)

Dear s 9(2)(a)

Thank you for your email of 8 February 2019 requesting the following under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

My request under the Official Information Act is a summary of all public correspondence that your office has dealt with on this issue [chemtrails] since 2010.

The Ministry for the Environment has interpreted the scope of your request as relating to all emails sent by members of the public between 1 January 2010 and 8 February 2019 to either info@mfe.govt.nz or ministerials@mfe.govt.nz, the main email inboxes through which the Ministry deals with public correspondence, on the issue of chemtrails. The emails are those which included words such as 'chem trail(s)', 'chemtrail(s)', 'chem-trail(s)', 'chemical trail(s)', 'aerosol forcing', 'geoengineering', 'geo-engineering' or 'geo engineering'.

The Ministry has identified 17 emails in scope and summarised them in the attached table.

Information which would identify the correspondents has been withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the Act in order to protect the privacy of natural persons. In terms of section 9(1) of the Act, I am satisfied that, in the circumstances, the withholding of this information is not outweighed by other considerations that render it desirable to make the information available in the public interest.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of my decision to withhold information relating to this request, in accordance with section 28(3) of the Act. The relevant details can be found at: www.ombudsman.parliament.nz.

For your information, most of the emails were from people asking about the existence of chemtrails. The Government's position is that there is no evidence to suggest that the phenomena observed are anything other than the vapour trails left by aircraft, or clouds formed by a natural process known as cloud streeting. I appreciate your concern and I would like to reassure you that there is no reason to believe that widespread spraying of chemicals from aircraft is occurring.

If you have any queries, please feel free to contact our Executive Relations team.

Yours sincerely



Janine Smith
Director, Climate Change

List of emails

Email no.	Email date	Email subject line
1	25 January 14	Cost request
2	6 May 14	Official Information Act request - Information Required on Stratospheric Aerosol Spraying and Weather Modification
3	10 July 14	OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT REQUEST, Non Response?
4	11 July 14	NEW Official Information Act Request
5	18 November 15	Atmospheric Aerosol forcing and SRM research in NZ
6	8 February 16	FW: Atmospheric Aerosol forcing and SRM research in NZ
7	10 March 16	RE: Atmospheric Aerosol forcing and SRM research in NZ
8	11 May 16	RE: OIA request 11 May 2016
9	18 May 16	Official Information Act request - Information regarding received communications and any action or no action taken.
10	24 May 16	RE: Official Information Act request - Information regarding received communications and any action or no action taken.
11	4 August 16	RE: MfE Conservation and Science Roadmap 2016 discussion pape
12	6 September 16	Top Scientist Confirms Aluminium Poisoning Via Chemtrails Is Real
13	3 May 17	Our skies
14	4 July 18	Climate Change
15	10 October 18	Our skies are being poisoned and so are we.
16	10 October 18	Re: Our skies are being poisoned and so are we.
17	20 October 18	Official Information Request

Released under the provisions of the Official Information Act 1982