

s 9(2)(a)

19-D-01005

s 9(2)(a) Maureen Pugh, National List MP  
s 9(2)(a) @parliament.govt.nz

Tēnā koe s 9(2)(a)

Thank you for your email on 29 May 2019 requesting the following under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

*"The BERL report detailing the merits or otherwise of Waste to Energy plants and their fit with NZ circular waste economy vs. landfills"*

The Ministry for the Environment has identified one document in scope of your request, as listed below;

1. BERL Report WtE draft 03.04.2019

I am withholding the report under section 9(2)(f)(iv) of the Act, because withholding is necessary to maintain the constitutional conventions which protect the confidentiality of advice tendered by Ministers or officials.

The BERL draft report *Waste to Energy – Incineration* has not been provided to the Associate Minister, who will be making future decisions only based on the information contained in a final report.

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.

Please note that due to the public interest in our work the Ministry for the Environment publishes responses to requests for official information on our website on our [OIA responses page](#) shortly after the response has been sent.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Office of 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 on their website at: [www.ombudsman.parliament.nz](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz)

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

Naku noa, nā



FP  
Shaun Lewis, Director  
Investments and Partnership