

19-D-02471

s 9(2)(a)

Dear s 9(2)(a)

Thank you for your email of 20 October 2019 requesting the following under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

Can you please identify any regulations which apply to peat extraction in New Zealand?

There are no Central Government regulations explicitly for peat extraction in New Zealand under the Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA). This information is not held by the Ministry for the Environment, nor does the Ministry believe that this information is held by another department, or agency. Therefore your request is refused under section 18(g) of the Act.

There is also no national policy statement, or national environmental standard to manage peat extraction. The list of national policy statements and national environmental standards can be found in the links below:

- <https://www.mfe.govt.nz/rma/rma-legislative-tools/national-policy-statements>
- <https://www.mfe.govt.nz/rma/rma-legislative-tools/national-environmental-standards>

A list of regulations made under the RMA can be found here: <https://www.mfe.govt.nz/rma/rma-legislative-tools/regulations-administrative-purposes/list-regulations>

The Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE) assesses applications for permits that can give exclusive extraction rights in relation to Crown-owned peat, under the Crown Minerals Act 1991 (CMA) and associated regulations and Minerals Programmes. The CMA regime applies only to Crown-owned minerals, and a Crown minerals permit does not grant approval to carry out extraction activities. The day-to-day management of natural and physical resources is delegated to councils under the RMA, and they may have planning rules (developed under the RMA) which regulate peat extraction.

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.

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 [OIA responses page](#) shortly after the response has been sent.

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

Yours sincerely



Katherine Wilson
Director, Natural and Built System

Released under the provision of
the Official Information Act 1982