



12 March 2025

OIAD-1487

9(2)(a)

Dear 9(2)(a)

Thank you for your email of 13 February 2025 requesting the following under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

Under the Official Information Act 1982, I am writing to request a copy of the application for the Taheke 8C Hydro project (or name variation) in regard to the Kaituna River Hydro Power Scheme, once it has been lodged with the Ministry for the Environment (MFE).

It is my understanding that the application may have been submitted as soon as last Friday (7/2), coinciding with the launch of the applications website.

The Ministry has identified the *Taheke 8C Hydro Development Project* (the Project) as relevant to your request.

No applications for the Project have been received since the application portal opened on 7 February 2025. Therefore, the Ministry is refusing your request under section 18(e) of the Act, as the information requested does not exist.

That said, you may be interested to note that an application to include the Project in the list of projects in Schedule 2 of the Bill was made on 2 May 2024. This application and supporting documents are publicly available, here: <https://environment.govt.nz/acts-and-regulations/acts/fast-track-approvals/fast-track-projects/the-taheke-8c-hydro-development-project/>

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Office of the Ombudsman of my decision 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 Ministerial Services team: ministerials@mfe.govt.nz.

Yours sincerely

Electronically approved by Stephanie Frame

Stephanie Frame
Manager - Delivery
Ministry for the Environment | Manatū Mō Te Taiao