

**From:** [Rob Dragten](#)  
**To:** [Khan Aronsen \[EXTERNAL\] \(PARLIAMENT\)](#)  
**Cc:** [Sara Clarke](#)  
**Subject:** RE: **Classification** FW: Talking points - Minister Simmonds Meeting with Mayor Tania Gibson, Grey District Council  
**Date:** Monday, 9 September 2024 2:05:31 pm  
**Attachments:** [Link to attachment 14.1](#)

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Hi Khan,

Slightly updated version of the meeting notes reflecting new information that the EPA has cancelled their abatement notice, and returned oversight of the site to the regional council.

Note that the issue that the abatement notice addressed was an overflow from a leachate storage pond into a nearby water course. The EPA considers this has been satisfactorily resolved. The risk that the land fill poses to the Greymouth water supply, via leachate leakage to groundwater, or through AF8, is a different issue.

Regards

Rob

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**From:** Khan Aronsen <[Khan.Aronsen@parliament.govt.nz](mailto:Khan.Aronsen@parliament.govt.nz)>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 9, 2024 1:56 PM  
**To:** Rob Dragten <[Rob.Dragten@mfe.govt.nz](mailto:Rob.Dragten@mfe.govt.nz)>  
**Subject:** RE: **Classification** FW: Talking points - Minister Simmonds Meeting with Mayor Tania Gibson, Grey District Council

Fantastic, you are a gem my friend!

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**From:** Rob Dragten <[Rob.Dragten@mfe.govt.nz](mailto:Rob.Dragten@mfe.govt.nz)>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 9, 2024 1:55 PM  
**To:** Khan Aronsen <[Khan.Aronsen@parliament.govt.nz](mailto:Khan.Aronsen@parliament.govt.nz)>  
**Subject:** RE: **Classification** FW: Talking points - Minister Simmonds Meeting with Mayor Tania Gibson, Grey District Council

Give me 20 mins – ok?

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**From:** Khan Aronsen <[Khan.Aronsen@parliament.govt.nz](mailto:Khan.Aronsen@parliament.govt.nz)>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 9, 2024 1:53 PM  
**To:** Rob Dragten <[Rob.Dragten@mfe.govt.nz](mailto:Rob.Dragten@mfe.govt.nz)>  
**Cc:** Devina Shetty [EXTERNAL] (Parliament) <[Devina.Shetty@parliament.govt.nz](mailto:Devina.Shetty@parliament.govt.nz)>  
**Subject:** RE: **Classification** FW: Talking points - Minister Simmonds Meeting with Mayor Tania Gibson, Grey District Council

Hot off the presses!! YES PLEASE!! If you don't mind please updating asap I'll update the Ministers folder. How long will the update take??

THANKS!!!

Khan

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**From:** Rob Dragten <[Rob.Dragten@mfe.govt.nz](mailto:Rob.Dragten@mfe.govt.nz)>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 9, 2024 1:40 PM  
**To:** Khan Aronsen <[Khan.Aronsen@parliament.govt.nz](mailto:Khan.Aronsen@parliament.govt.nz)>  
**Subject:** RE: **Classification** FW: Talking points - Minister Simmonds Meeting with Mayor Tania Gibson, Grey District Council

Hi Khan,

I have become aware today that the EPA has now cancelled their abatement notice as the required work had been completed and water samples taken from the area show that the contaminated water is not being discharged from the site. The ongoing regulation and monitoring of the site remain the responsibility of WCRC.

[EPA concludes Greymouth landfill investigation | EPA](#)

Would you like me to provide updated meeting notes for the Minister?

Regards

Rob

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**From:** Khan Aronsen <[Khan.Aronsen@parliament.govt.nz](mailto:Khan.Aronsen@parliament.govt.nz)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 5, 2024 4:47 PM  
**To:** Rob Dragten <[Rob.Dragten@mfe.govt.nz](mailto:Rob.Dragten@mfe.govt.nz)>; Briefings - Simmonds <[BriefingsSimmonds@mfe.govt.nz](mailto:BriefingsSimmonds@mfe.govt.nz)>  
**Cc:** Sara Clarke <[Sara.Clarke@mfe.govt.nz](mailto:Sara.Clarke@mfe.govt.nz)>; Devina Shetty [EXTERNAL] (Parliament) <[Devina.Shetty@parliament.govt.nz](mailto:Devina.Shetty@parliament.govt.nz)>  
**Subject:** RE: **Classification** FW: Talking points - Minister Simmonds Meeting with Mayor Tania Gibson, Grey District Council

Brilliant! I've been keeping an eye out for this and today has been chaos – thanks so much for this info Rob.

Much appreciated! The office thanks you.

Khan



**Khan Aronsen (he/him) | Private Secretary Environment  
Office of Hon Penny Simmonds**  
Minister for the Environment | Minister Tertiary Education & Skills  
Associate Minister for Social Development & Employment  
Mobile: **9(2)(a)**  
G-025 Parliament Buildings

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**From:** Rob Dragten <[Rob.Dragten@mfe.govt.nz](mailto:Rob.Dragten@mfe.govt.nz)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 5, 2024 4:32 PM  
**To:** Briefings - Simmonds <[BriefingsSimmonds@mfe.govt.nz](mailto:BriefingsSimmonds@mfe.govt.nz)>  
**Cc:** Sara Clarke <[Sara.Clarke@mfe.govt.nz](mailto:Sara.Clarke@mfe.govt.nz)>  
**Subject:** **Classification** FW: Talking points - Minister Simmonds Meeting with Mayor Tania Gibson, Grey District Council

Apologies,

I used an incorrect email address on below email.

Rob

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**From:** Rob Dragten  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 5, 2024 4:24 PM  
**To:** Khan Aronsen [EXTERNAL] (PARLIAMENT) <[Khan.Aronsen@parliament.govt.nz](mailto:Khan.Aronsen@parliament.govt.nz)>  
**Cc:** Ministerials <[ministerials@mfe.govt.nz](mailto:ministerials@mfe.govt.nz)>; Sara Clarke <[Sara.Clarke@mfe.govt.nz](mailto:Sara.Clarke@mfe.govt.nz)>; [SimmondsBriefings@mfe.govt.nz](mailto:SimmondsBriefings@mfe.govt.nz)  
**Subject:** Talking points - Minister Simmonds Meeting with Mayor Tania Gibson, Grey District Council

Kia ora Khan,

Please find attached the requested briefing and talking points to support the Ministers meeting with Mayor Gibson next week.

Sara Clarke will be the official attending to support the Minister.

Nga mihi  
Rob

**Rob Dragten**  
Principal Adviser (Regulatory Practice and Compliance) | Kaitātari Mātāmua  
System Enablement and Support | Te Whakatū Pūnaha  
Partnerships, Investments and Enablement

Ministry for the Environment | Manatū Mō Te Taiao

**9(2)(a)** | [rob.dragten@mfe.govt.nz](mailto:rob.dragten@mfe.govt.nz) | [environment.govt.nz](http://environment.govt.nz)

*Ministry staff work flexibly by default. For me, this means working remotely from Cambridge in the Waikato, Monday to Friday, 8.00am to 5.00pm*