



19 June 2025

OIAD-1571

9(2)(a)

Dear 9(2)(a)

Thank you for your email of 22 April 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).

On 20 May 2025, the Ministry for the Environment (the Ministry) extended the timeframe for its response to your request under section 15A(1)(b) of the Act, as consultations necessary to make a decision on the request are such that a proper response could not reasonably be made within the original timeframe.

The Ministry did not initially intend to publish information relating to declined applications under the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024 (the FTAA.) However, this position has since changed, and the Ministry now plans to proactively release such information. Therefore, the Ministry is refusing your request in full under section 18(d) of the Act, as the requested information will soon be publicly available, by 11 July 2025, here:

<https://www.fasttrack.govt.nz/projects>

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