



OIAD-1071

10 June 2024

9(2)(a)

Tēnā koe <sup>9(2)(a)</sup>

Thank you for your email of 26 April 2024 to the Ministry for the Environment (the Ministry) requesting the following under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

*I write to please request a copy of the document: Signalling Improvements to Freshwater Farm Plans, identified by the Office of the Associate Minister for the Environment in response to written parliamentary question 6589 (2024).*

The Ministry has provided a copy of the requested document, *BRF-4435 - Signalling improvements to freshwater farm plans*, to you with some information withheld under section 9(2)(f)(iv) of the Act to maintain the constitutional conventions for the time being which protect the confidentiality of advice tendered by Ministers of the Crown and officials. Appendix 2 of BRF-4435 has been refused in full under section 18(d) of the Act as this information will soon be proactively released and publicly available.

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.

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).

Please note that due to the public interest in our work the Ministry 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](mailto:ministerials@mfe.govt.nz).

Nāku noa, nā,

**Sara Clarke,**  
General Manager –System Enablement  
Ministry for the Environment | Manatū Mō Te Taiao