



OIAD-1134

11 July 2024

9(2)(a)

Dear 9(2)(a),

Thank you for your email of 25 June 2024 requesting the following under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

All information held regarding any proposal by Far North Solar Farm Ltd (FNSF) to build a solar energy generation plant in Waipara, including any fast-track application(s) made, any accompanying documents, and any correspondence to or from FNSF regarding Waipara.

As final decisions have yet to be made regarding Fast-Track applications, the Ministry for the Environment is refusing your request in full 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.

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.

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

Stephanie Frame
Manager – Fast-track Listed Projects
Ministry for the Environment | Manatū Mō Te Taiao