



2 September 2024

OIAD-1195

9(2)(a)

Dear 9(2)(a)

Thank you for your email of 4 August 2024 requesting the following under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

In or about 2010 the New Zealand government accredited a voluntary Product Stewardship Scheme (PSS) for the recovery and destruction of synthetic refrigerants (Scheme) under s15 of the Waste Minimisation Act 2008 (WMA), the voluntary Scheme calling itself 'Refrigerant Recovery'.

The Scheme's accreditation was extended in 2017. I request copies of all documentation relating of the Scheme with respect to:

- *the Scheme's original accreditation, including contractual arrangements;*
- *the 2017 extension of the Scheme's accreditation; and*
- *any other applications that have been made for extension of the Scheme's accreditation.*

The Ministry for the Environment (the Ministry) has identified nine documents in scope of your request, as listed in the attached table, which are being withheld in full under section 9(2)(b)(ii) of the Act, to protect information where the making available of the information would be likely unreasonably to prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied or who is the subject of the information.

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

Shaun Lewis
General Manager – Waste Systems
Ministry for the Environment | Manatū Mō Te Taiao

Document schedule

Document no.	Document date	Content	Decisions	OIA sections applied
1	20/5/2010	[Accreditation application] Trust for the Destruction of Synthetic Refrigerants	Withheld in full	9(2)(b)(ii)
2	10/9/2010	[Briefing] 10-B-03794 Refrigerant Recovery NZ Limited's Product Stewardship Scheme	Withheld in full	9(2)(b)(ii)
3	17/2/2017	[Application extension] Trust for the Destruction of Synthetic Refrigerants	Withheld in full	9(2)(b)(ii)
4	14/8/2017	[Briefing] 2017-B-03892 Assessment of Applications for Product Stewardship Accreditation: Refrigerant Recovery and Agrecovery	Withheld in full	9(2)(b)(ii)
5	5/4/2023	[Accreditation application] Cool-Safe	Withheld in full	9(2)(b)(ii)
6	16/5/2023	LVL R Contract for Services with McHugh and Shaw	Withheld in full	9(2)(b)(ii)
7	16/6/2023	Product Stewardship Scheme Accreditation Assessment Report Cool-Safe	Withheld in full	9(2)(b)(ii)
8	15/5/2024	[Briefing] BRF-3855 Briefing: Re-accreditation of the Cool-Safe product stewardship scheme for synthetic refrigerants	Withheld in full	9(2)(b)(ii)
9	3/7/2024	[Briefing] BRF-4976 Aide memoire: further information on re-accreditation of the Cool-Safe product stewardship scheme	Withheld in full	9(2)(b)(ii)