



OIAD-1254

9(2)(a)

Tēnā koe 9(2)(a)

Thank you for your email of 11 September 2024 requesting the following under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

*This email is a request for information under the Official Information Act 1982, requesting the following:*

*BRF-4377: Options to prevent notification of freshwater plans prior to the NPS-FM review and replacement*

The Ministry for the Environment (the Ministry) is withholding this document 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](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,

**Hayden Johnston**  
General Manager – Natural Environment Policy  
Ministry for the Environment | Manatū Mō Te Taiao