



8 November 2024

9(2)(a)

9(2)(a)

Dear 9(2)(a)

Thank you for your email of 23 September 2024 requesting the following under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

We enclose a copy of the diagram outlining the parties involved in the Waimea dam project that was provided in the WIL product disclose statement of 14 June 2019. Various agreements are identified. We have marked in yellow those documents that we would like to see – preferably signed and dated ones. If there has been changes to the original agreements, we would like to see the original version and details of changes made to it, and when those changes were made.

The Ministry for the Environment has identified seven documents in scope of your request, as listed in the attached document schedule. Some information within these documents has been withheld under the following sections of the Act:

- 9(2)(a) to protect the privacy of natural persons
- 9(2)(b)(ii) where the release of 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.

In response to your letter of 22 October, the Ministry's decision to extend the timeframe was made to allow for necessary consultation with the Tasman District Council. An informed, accurate decision to release this information could not be made without undertaking this consultation, and unfortunately it was not possible to complete this in the original timeframe. We apologise for any inconvenience.

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

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Lorena Stephen'.

Lorena Stephen
General Manager – Partnerships and Investments
Ministry for the Environment | Manatū Mō Te Taiao

Document schedule

No.	Date	Content	Decision	OIA sections applied
1	1 July 2019	Freshwater Improvement Fund Deed of Funding: Waimea Water Augmentation Project	Release in part	9(2)(a) 9(2)(b)(ii)
2	2019/20	Freshwater Improvement Fund – Annual Work Plan – Year One	Release in part	9(2)(a) 9(2)(b)(ii)
3	2020/21	Freshwater Improvement Fund – Annual Work Plan – Year Two	Release in part	9(2)(a) 9(2)(b)(ii)
4	2021/22	Freshwater Improvement Fund – Annual Work Plan – Year Three	Release in part	9(2)(a) 9(2)(b)(ii)
5	21 September 2021	Variation to Deed - 1	Release in part	9(2)(a)
6	24 January 2023	Variation to Deed - 2	Release in part	9(2)(a)
7	21 December 2023	Variation to Deed - 3	Release in part	9(2)(a)