



20 March 2024

OIAD-970

9(2)a

Tena koē 9(2)a,

Thank you for your email of 21 February 2024 requesting the following under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

- 1. All reports & enquiries received by the public about 'atmospheric aerosol geoengineering', 'chemtrails', 'aircraft emissions', 'stratospheric aerosol injection' or 'solar radiation management' since 2010.*
- 2. The date the enquiries were received.*
- 3. The steps taken that the Ministry for the Environment has taken to investigate each enquiry.*

The Ministry for the Environment (the Ministry) has interpreted your request for 'reports and enquiries received by the public' as being for information received from members of the public, rather than New Zealand companies. We have identified 19 enquiries relating to the specific requested topics (chemtrails, aircraft emissions, stratospheric aerosol injection or solar radiation management) of your request, as listed in the attached table. The date the enquiries were received are also noted in the attached document schedule.

Some information within these documents has been redacted as out of scope of your request or withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the Act, to protect the privacy of natural persons, including that of deceased natural persons. 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.

The Ministry has not received any enquiries relating specifically to atmospheric aerosol geoengineering. Therefore, we are refusing this part of your request under section 18(e) of the Act as the documents alleged to contain the information requested do not exist and despite reasonable efforts to locate it, cannot be found.

The Ministry does not investigate each enquiry received relating to atmospheric aerosol geoengineering, chemtrails, aircraft emissions, stratospheric aerosol injection or solar radiation management. Therefore, we are refusing this part of your request under section 18(e) of the Act as the documents alleged to contain the information requested do not exist.

If you are concerned that geoengineering or related activities are occurring in New Zealand, you can be assured they are not. There is no evidence to support the occurrence of deliberate spraying of chemicals or other substances from aircraft in New Zealand for the purposes of manipulating the weather.

The persistent white trails in skies that have been attributed to “chemtrails” are either trails of water vapour from aircraft, or clouds which have been formed by a natural process known as cloud streeting. The persistence of vapour trails is dependent on moisture levels and the stability of the atmosphere. Small changes in these parameters can affect their appearance and persistence. Under certain atmospheric conditions, the vapour trails can last for a few hours and spread out due to winds.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Office of the Ombudsman of my decision to refuse parts of your request, and my decision to withhold information from the information being released, 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.

Nāku noa, nā,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'G. Wigley'.

Glenn Wigley,
General Manager – Waste & HSNO Policy
Ministry for the Environment | Manatū Mō Te Taiao

Document Schedule

Document no.	Document date	Content	Decisions	OIA sections applied
Chemtrails				
1	8 November 2022	Official Information Act request regarding Chemtrails	Released in part	9(2)(a)
2	27 July 2023	Official Information request regarding the Chemical Trailing	Released in part	9(2)(a)
3	25 July 2022	RE: Chemicals - OIAD-326 - Response to your query	Released in part	9(2)(a)
4	24 January 2024	weather modification in New Zealand	Released in part	9(2)(a)
5	1 November 2023	OIA request	Released in part	9(2)(a)
6	8 February 2023	CORD-146 FW: Geo-engineering (Chem Trails)	Released in part	9(2)(a)
7	28 March 2023	Geoengineering in NZ	Released in part	9(2)(a)
8	12 August 2021	Request under the OIA	Released in part	9(2)(a)
Aircraft Emissions				
9	11 December 2018	Climate Change	Released in part	9(2)(a)
Stratospheric aerosol injection				
10	4 October 2018	New Zealand's Cooperation on Marine Cloud Brightening	Released in part	9(2)(a)
11	3 November 2019	Official Information request - Chemical agents used in	Released in part	9(2)(a)

		Stratospheric Aerosol Injections (SAI)		
Solar radiation management				
12	2 November 2015	OIA and Ack - Atmospheric Aerosol forcing and SRM research in NZ	Released in part	9(2)(a)
13	12 March 2018	18-D-00485 Robert McCabe - (chem trails)	Released in part	9(2)(a)
14	4 July 2018	Climate Change	Released in part	9(2)(a)
15	8 January 2018	Information request regarding matters relating to climate control/engineering as mitigation for climate change	Released in part	9(2)(a)
16	11 July 2014	New Official Information Act Request	Released in part	9(2)(a)
17	16 April 2018	Atmospheric Geoengineering by aerosol spraying from aircraft in New Zealand	Released in part	9(2)(a)
18	15 March 2016	Regulation of Geoengineering activity	Released in part	9(2)(a)
19	10 March 2019	Summary of all public correspondence on chemtrailing in NZ	Released in part	9(2)(a)