



OIAD-973

22 April 2024

9(2)a

Tēnā koe 9(2)a,

Thank you for your email of 22 February 2024 requesting the following under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

Can you please provide us with any information and documentation in relation to:

- *Waikato Regional Council - Global Contracting Solutions application for resource consent to build a waste incinerator at 401 Racecourse Road, Te Awamutu*
- *Waipā District Council - Global Contracting Solutions application for resource consent to build a waste incinerator at 401 Racecourse Road, Te Awamutu*
- *Any correspondence between MFE and any iwi group and Waikato Tainui in relation to the above two applications.*

The Ministry for the Environment (the Ministry) has identified 16 documents in scope of your request, as listed in the attached document schedule. Seven documents are being released to you in full. Three documents have been withheld in full under the following section of the Act:

- 9(2)(f)(iv) to maintain the constitutional conventions for the time being which protect the confidentiality of advice tendered by Ministers of the Crown and officials.

The six remaining documents have been released to you in part with some information withheld under the following sections of the Act:

- 9(2)(f)(iv) to maintain the constitutional conventions for the time being which protect the confidentiality of advice tendered by Ministers of the Crown and officials.
- 9(2)(h) to maintain legal professional privilege.
- 9(2)(a) to protect the privacy of natural persons, including that of deceased natural persons.

The Ministry received information from the Waipā District Council relating to the waste incineration proposal that is publicly available on the council website, available here: <https://www.waipadc.govt.nz/our-services/planning-and-resource-consents/notified-resource-consents/waste-incineration-plant-proposal-401-racecourse-road-te-awamutu>

During the assessment of the emails in scope of your request, there were a number of emails that were purely administrative in nature, such as organising meeting times, requests to print documents, meeting invitation responses, forwarding the same information to different people, and assigning or reviewing document requests. We have excluded these purely administrative

emails as out of scope as they do not provide any substantive information to you. If you decide that you require these purely administrative emails, we welcome you to submit a new request under the Act.

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.

Nāku noa, nā,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several fluid, overlapping strokes that form a stylized, elongated shape.

Rebecca Scannell,
Programme Director, Urban and Infrastructure Policy
Ministry for the Environment | Manatū Mō Te Taiao

Document schedule

Document no.	Document date	Content	Decisions	OIA sections applied
1	21 June 2022	BRF-1789 Aide Memoire Appendix: Letter from Zero Waste Network	Released in full	N/A
2	28 June 2022	BRF-1805 Te Awamutu Waste to energy proposal	Withheld in part	9(2)(f)(iv) 9(2)(h)
3		WtE consent call in requests record and tracking	Released in full	N/A
4	22 January 2024	Extracts from the Environment Weekly Update sent to the Office of the Minister for the Environment OIAD-973	Released in full	N/A
5	Various dates – from beginning of 2024	Correspondence collated for OIAD-973	Withheld in part	9(2)(a)
6	31 January 2024	CORM-2023	Withheld in part	9(2)(a)
7	23 February 2024	CORM-2024	Withheld in part	9(2)(a)
8	6 March 2024	Environment Weekly Officials draft agenda	Withheld in full	9(2)(f)(iv)
9	27 February 2024	BRF-4100 Call in Request - Global Contracting Solutions Te Awamutu	Withheld in part	9(2)(a)

		Waste-to-Energy Proposal		
10	15 December 2023	WRC - Letter to the Minister for the Environment S142 Request to Call In APP143988	Released in full	N/A
11		Letter from Zero Waste Network requesting a call in	Released in full	N/A
12		Bullet Points for Minister Simmonds meeting with MP for Taranaki-King Country: Waste to Energy Plant in Te Awamutu	Released in full	N/A
13	26 February 2024	RMA Application for Call In - Te Awamutu – Email	Released in full	N/A
14		Excel spreadsheet re estimated plastics emissions	Withheld in full	9(2)(f)(iv)
15		Te Awamutu emissions to air modelling notes	Withheld in full	9(2)(f)(iv)
16		Collated emails relating to OIAD-973	Withheld in part	9(2)(a) 9(2)(h) 9(2)(f)(iv)