

2 March 2020

Brent Yardley
fyi-request-12236-780a43dd@requests.fyi.org.nz

Our ref: F27859
By email

Dear Brent

Official Information Act request – notification of gas leak incidents

I refer to your official information request dated 14 February 2020, asking whether gas leaks at Port Marlborough in 2018 and 2020 were notified to Maritime NZ.

It does not appear that Maritime NZ was notified regarding the incident in 2018. As this incident occurred on land rather than on a vessel, the jurisdiction for managing the response would generally reside with Port Marlborough and WorkSafe NZ rather than Maritime NZ. This being the case, there would have been no requirement under the Maritime Transport Act for Maritime NZ to be notified.

With regard to the incident in January this year, Maritime NZ only became aware of it once the train had disembarked the vessel and it was in the railyard. By this time, the incident was being handled by other agencies such as Fire and Emergency and Police. Once the source of the leak was rectified, the site was handed over to NZ Transport Authority's Safer Rail Team and WorkSafe NZ, with assistance from Maritime NZ.

If you wish to discuss this decision with us, please feel free to email me or contact me on freephone 0508 225 522.

Yours sincerely



Anna Dwen
Advisor, Ministerial Services