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20-D-00804

J. Bruning fyi-request-12884-aae3fb50@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear J. Bruning

Thank you for your email of 25 May 2020 requesting the following under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

Re: Hazardous substances assessments: Improving decision-making – A discussion document on proposed improvements to assessments and reassessments of hazardous substances - Consultation August 2019. https://www.mfe.govt.nz/sites/default/files/media/Hazards/hazardous-substances-discussion-document.pdf

Please make publicly available the content of all submissions responding to the August 2019 discussion document.

The results of this consultation have not been published - https://www.mfe.govt.nz/consultations/hazardous-substances

I expect personal numbers and emails from citizens submitting in a personal capacity to be redacted, but not from persons submitting in a professional capacity. This includes agencies, academics, companies, including members and associates of lobbying organisations who lobby on behalf of commercial interests.

The Ministry for the Environment expects to publish the submissions you requested next month. Therefore, we are refusing your request under section 18 (d) of the Official Information Act. If you have any queries, please feel free to contact our Executive Relations team (email: ministerials@mfe.govt.nz).

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.

Yours sincerely

Approved electronically by Glenn Wigley on 16 June 2020

Glenn Wigley

Director, Resource Efficiency – Regulatory and Policy