

Our Ref DOIA 23-029

Your Ref Huiarua and Matanui Stations

16 August 2022

Gywn Walker By email

## **Wellington Office**

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Dear Gywn,

## Response to your official information request

Thank you for your official information request received on 9 August 2022.

You have requested:

"1) the identity of the purchaser or purchasers of the Huiarua and Matanui stations, including any beneficial owners.

2) any and all documents (including emails) held by the OIO which relate to the OIO's consideration of and consent to the sale of these stations to overseas purchaser(s)."

We have treated your request as being for the OIO's assessment report, because this includes a summary of the Applicant's submissions against the statutory criteria, as well as our assessment of the application and reasoning for the decision-makers granting consent. It also includes the identity of the purchasing entities, and their upstream ownership. Once you have had an opportunity to consider this information, please let us know if you wish to request anything further.

Please find attached a copy of the OIO's assessment report, which is released in part.

We have withheld some information (including the consideration under the agreements for sale and purchase) in reliance on section 9(2)(b)(ii) of the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act). The grounds for withholding this information are that it is likely to unreasonably prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied or is the subject of the information.

We have withheld some information in reliance on section 9(2)(a) of the Act to protect the privacy of natural persons.

Also, we have withheld some information in reliance on section 9(2)(g)(i) of the Act which relates to maintaining the effective conduct of public affairs through the free and frank expression of opinions by Ministers or officials.

We are of the view that withholding this information, under the grounds mentioned above, is not outweighed by other considerations which render it desirable in the public interest to make that information available.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision. Information about how to make a complaint is available at <a href="https://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz">www.ombudsman.parliament.nz</a> or freephone 0800 802 602.

Please note, this response letter outlining our decision on your request, **with your personal details withheld**, and any attached documentation will be published on the Toitū Te Whenua Land Information New Zealand's website. This is likely to be published early next week.

If you wish to discuss this decision with us, please feel free to contact me on <a href="mailto:oio@linz.govt.nz">oio@linz.govt.nz</a>.

Yours sincerely,

Marcus McMillan

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Manager – Applications, Overseas Investment Office

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