



16 January 2024

Ref: DOIA 2324-1168

Adam Irish

Email: fyi-request-24882-a0a5b529@requests.fyi.org.nz

Tēnā koe Adam Irish

Thank you for your email of 27 November 2023 to the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE) requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act), the following information:

I request under the Official Information Act all information that may be useful to the public or future government on the lake Onslow power scheme project.

This was paid for an progressed at great expense to the public and the information should be maintained so that process isn't lost should a future government proceed with this project.

On 29 November 2023 we emailed you requesting refinement of the request so as to avoid being declined due to substantial collation and research under section 18(f) of the Act. You replied to us on 4 December 2023:

Please feel free to narrow the scope so that its not substantial collation. Please include briefing to Ministers, reports and information that would be useful for decision making on the project in the future. Regarding emails, any that shows the prior government holding back a decision or commitment to the project or emails that show what officials think of the project.

On 8 December 2023 we emailed you again to narrow the scope to exclude emails as this would still require substantial collation and research. As we did not receive a reply from you regarding this email we have excluded emails from this request.

As part of the process of ending MBIE's investigation into the use of Lake Onslow for a pumped hydro electricity generation station, the Ministry is preparing a public release of documents associated with this work. Given the volume of information involved, we expect the information to be released on our website towards the end of February. We expect this release will meet the intent of your request for official information.

Given that the information will soon be publicly available, MBIE is refusing your request under section 18(d) of the Act.

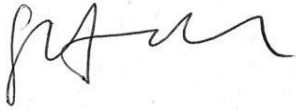
You will be able to find the information requested here: <https://www.mbie.govt.nz/building-and-energy/energy-and-natural-resources/low-emissions-economy/nz-battery/lake-onslow-option/>

If you wish to discuss any aspect of your request or this response, or if you require any further assistance, please contact OIA@mbie.govt.nz.



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 www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

Nāku noa, nā

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Susan Hall', written in a cursive style.

Susan Hall
Policy Director
Energy Markets Branch