

8 August 2016

By Email

Mr Paul Shelestovich
GovHack Wellington

fyi-request-4285-af0f28e2@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Mr Shelestovich

OIA request – monthly or weekly power consumption

I refer to your email of 21 July in which you requested information about “monthly or weekly power consumption by unit for the whole country or at least for some regions”.

We have processed your request in accordance with the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA).

Section 9(2)(b)(ii) of the OIA enables the Authority to refuse a request when releasing the information would be “likely unreasonably to prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied or who is the subject of the information”.

I have determined in this case that that section provides good reason to refuse your request. Releasing the information you have requested would prejudice the commercial position of the retailers who have provided this information, and could also prejudice the position of some consumers.

I have also considered whether there is any public interest in releasing the information which would outweigh the potential harm that could be caused. I have decided that there is not.

However, aggregated consumption data is available on our electricity market information (emi) website at www.emi.ea.govt.nz. In particular please refer to the report at www.emi.ea.govt.nz/r/3auye. If you have any questions relating to the information on our emi website, please email us at emi@ea.govt.nz.

Also note that, if there is a particular property for which you would like to access consumption data, you could seek the consumer’s permission, and then seek the information from their retailer. There is a standard format for retailers to provide this information. Please refer to the following page on the Authority’s website for more information:

<http://www.ea.govt.nz/operations/consumer-services/provide-a-service-with-electricity-data/consumption-data/>

You are entitled to ask an Ombudsman to investigate and review our decision to withhold the information you requested. The address for contacting the Ombudsmen is:

Office of the Ombudsman
PO Box 10-152
Wellington

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'AD', is positioned above the name of the signatory.

Androula Dometakis
Acting Chief Executive