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OIA-2017-2616

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## Mr Benchmark

fyi-request-5169-b4f7ae95@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Mr Benchmark

I refer to your email of 31 December 2016 to the Ministry of Defence requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA), publication of information about the use and number of tugboats in the Navy.

The Royal New Zealand Navy (RNZN) does not have tugboats in service. When obligated to do so, or conditions dictate that tugboats should be used, then the RNZN will engage with the relevant commercial tugboat company or the local port authority.

I trust this satisfies your request for information. You retain the right, however, under section 28(3) of the OIA, to ask an Ombudsman to review my response to your request.

Yours sincerely

G.R. SMITH

Commodore, RNZN Chief of Staff HQNZDF