

20 November 2012

Alex Harris  
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Dear Alex

**Request made under the Official Information Act 1982**

Thank you for your letter of 17 October 2012 requesting information about the use of Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) technology in the Homer Tunnel. The NZ Transport Agency (NZTA) wrote to you on 12 November 2012 to extend the time available to respond to your request. Your questions and my responses follow.

**Documents relating to the use of ANPR in the Homer tunnel**

- Attachment 1: ANPR related page from a presentation on a proposal for a number of safety improvements to the Homer Tunnel given by Downer Ltd. This page was also used in presentations by NZTA to Bus and Coach and Southland Regional Transport Committee.

The information from the ANPR camera is linked to entry and exit only. If a vehicle does not exit in a minimum timeframe then alarms at the monitoring stations (Te Anau and Wellington) sound to raise that there is a potential issue in the tunnel with vehicles possibly stopped. The system does the matching and alarming at the tunnel so information from the camera is not transferred elsewhere.

There are currently no other documents held by the NZTA that fall within scope of this part of your request. The NZTA has agreed in principle to the process after presentation and the details are still being worked on by the contractor to be put forward for recommendation, and subsequent installation.

**List of any other location the NZTA proposes to use ANPR**

- The NZTA is currently investigating the use of ANPR technology at Waipara, north of Christchurch, to assist in identifying over-weight vehicles.

**Any communication with the Privacy Commissioner about the use of ANPR**

- Attachment 2: NZTA correspondence with the Office of the Privacy Commissioner.

If you would like to discuss this reply with the NZTA, please contact Peter Robinson, Southland Area Manager, Highways and Network Operations - Dunedin, by email to [peter.robinson@nzta.govt.nz](mailto:peter.robinson@nzta.govt.nz) or by phone on (03) 955 2934.

Yours sincerely



**Ian Duncan**  
State Highway Manager Otago/Southland  
For Chief Executive