



13 NOV 2018

274-18

Ross Francis
fyi-request-8994-97a9ce31@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Ross Francis

Thank you for your email of 5 November 2018 requesting the following information under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

I have the following information request relating to the Royal Commission on Genetic Modification.

When was Sir Thomas Eichelbaum appointed to chair the inquiry and when were inquiries first made of his availability and that of the other commissioners? Please send me all records relating to this request.

How much was he paid, what was his rate of payment and on what dates did he work on the inquiry?

Was Sir Thomas asked to declare any conflicts of interest or potential conflicts of interest? Please send me a copy of any such declaration by him, and a copy of his employment contract.

I am refusing your request under Section 18(d) of the Act, as due to the historic nature of information you are requesting it is all held by Archives New Zealand.

By searching on the phrase 'genetic modification' from their website at <https://archway.archives.govt.nz/> you can see a full list of all the files held. In particular, the file "Commission – Setup" (reference R442272) has an open access classification and is available for viewing at the National Office in Wellington, or a copy can be ordered via the Archives website at: <https://archway.archives.govt.nz/ViewFullItem.do?code=442272>.

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.

If you wish to discuss this decision, please feel free to contact my office.

Yours sincerely

Hon David Parker
Minister for the Environment