

18-D-02520

Ross Francis
fyi-request-9103-f1d1bf83@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Ross Francis

Thank you for your email of 23 November 2018 requesting the following under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

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

On 4 April 2000, then-Energy Minister Pete Hodgson informed Parliament, on behalf of the Environment Minister: "I received a request from the Prime Minister in December last year asking me to initiate the work for an independent inquiry into genetic modification and options for managing a moratorium, and I passed this on to my officials."

Given that officials at the Environment Ministry were in contact with the Minister from December 1999, please provide me with all communication between officials and the Minister between 10 December 1999 and 30 April 2000.

Please provide me with copies of any Cabinet papers dated between 10 December 1999 and 30 April 2000.

On what dates did officials provide the Minister with Cabinet papers pertaining to an inquiry into genetic modification?

As advised in our previous responses to you on this topic, all the relevant files are now held by Archives New Zealand and most are available for viewing. Therefore, I am refusing your request under section 18(g), as the information is not held by the Ministry for the Environment.

However, I also understand that you have a similar request for information currently being processed by Archives New Zealand, and the in scope material will be considered for release to you by the former Minister for the Environment.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of my decision relating to this request, in accordance with section 28(3) of the Act. The relevant details can be found at: www.ombudsman.parliament.nz.

Yours sincerely



Glenn Wigley
Director, Natural and Built Systems

