



13 April 2012

Alex Harris
By E-mail: requests@fyi.org.nz

Dear Mr Harris

OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT REQUEST – CEO EXPENSES

I refer to your request for information set out in your email dated 19 March 2012.

Dr. Elder has two purchasing cards; one for air travel expenses and the other for general business expenses. I attach copies of the air travel card statement and the purchasing card statement for the period 1 September 2011 to 31 December 2011 as requested.

You may note that the purchasing card statement includes a personal expense incurred inadvertently by Dr. Elder (for restaurant dining, transaction date 25 November). I attach a copy of a screenshot entry showing the repayment of the amount to the company on 30 January 2012.

You have also asked for receipts and invoices in relation to Dr. Elder's business expenses. These have not been provided. Solid Energy has a policy of charging for information supplied under the Official Information Act in accordance with Ministry of Justice Guidelines. While we have yet to review, collate, edit (if necessary) and copy this information I estimate the charge to carry out this work will be at least \$76. This amount is based upon one hour of staff time calculated in accordance with Ministry of Justice Guidelines. Any photocopying costs where the number of pages exceeds 20 will also be charged (again in accordance with Ministry of Justice Guidelines). The time spent on this part of the request will be in addition to the time spent in providing the information attached. We have considered whether there are any public interest considerations that might exist so as the charge should be remitted. In this case, we believe that any public interest considerations are satisfied by the release of Dr. Elder's statements.

If you would like us to provide any receipts and invoices held in relation to Dr. Elder's expenses please forward a cheque for \$76 payable to Solid Energy and I will arrange for the information to be collected and reviewed. Alternatively I can supply Solid Energy's bank account details.

Under section 28(3) of the Official Information Act you are entitled to seek an investigation and review of the above by writing to the Ombudsman.

Yours sincerely

Rob Page
SENIOR CORPORATE SOLICITOR