

5 April 2024

Stephen Prendergast
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Tēnā koe Stephen

Thank you for your request to the Department of Conservation, received on 16 January 2024, in which you asked for:

'Information from 1 May 2023 by the Regulatory services unit covering the advice provided to Penny Nelson or DOC SLT, the Minister, or MBIE regarding the issuing of concessions to PTL WHL for Turoa and Whakapapa ski fields'.

We have considered your request under the Official Information Act 1982.

On 16 January we contacted you and sought to refine your request. This was because the request (as previously framed) would likely have involved substantial collation and research. On 31 January you agreed to our proposed refinement and the request was amended to:

1. *Formal advice to the Minister of Conservation primarily related to the concession process for Mt Ruapehu, since 1 May 2023.*
2. *Formal advice to the Director-General of Conservation primarily related to the concession process for Mt Ruapehu, since 1 May 2023.*

On 29 February we extended the timeframe to respond to your request to 5 April. This was due to research necessary to identify all in scope information and undertake associated consultation.

Under section 15(1)(a) of the Official Information Act, I have decided to grant your request. However, more time is required to prepare the response for release. We expect to be able to provide you with the final documentation no later than 9 April 2024. We apologise for any inconvenience that this may cause.

For your reference, some information will be withheld under section 9 of the Official Information Act as applicable.

In making my decision, I have considered the public interest considerations in section 9(1) of the Official Information Act and determined there are no public interests that outweigh the grounds for withholding.



You are entitled to seek an investigation and review of my decision by writing to an Ombudsman as provided by section 28(3) of the Official Information Act.

Nāku noa, nā

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'SB' enclosed in a large, loopy circle.

Steve Brightwell
Principal Advisor – Policy and Regulatory Services
Department of Conservation
Te Papa Atawhai