

Jessica Ballard (Jess)

From: J Bruning <fyi-request-12987-da8dc5dd@requests.fyi.org.nz>
Sent: Saturday, 30 May 2020 11:22 AM
To: Official Information Act
Subject: Official Information request - Organic Products Bill - briefings and advice

Dear Ministry for Primary Industries,

This is an urgent request under section 12(3) of the Official Information Act. I set out below the information I am seeking, and then I state my reasons for asking the Ministry to make a decision on my request urgently.

I am seeking information on the Organic Products Bill.

Please provide me with:

(a) a list of all the briefings, submissions, aide memoire, or advice provided by the Ministry to the Hon Damien O'Connor as the Minister in charge of the Organic Products Bill, including the dates of each document and its title.

(b) a copy of all the briefings, submissions, aide memoire or advice provided by the Ministry to the Minister in charge of the Bill that relate to what should be included or excluded from what is currently clause 3 of the Organic Products Bill (<http://www.legislation.govt.nz/bill/government/2020/0221/latest/whole.html>) - the purposes of the legislation.

Where the Ministry decides to withhold any information from its response to me, please can it also provide me - as required by section 19(a)(ii) of the OIA - the grounds in support of its reason for each item of withheld information. If any document is withheld entirely, I request that the Ministry nevertheless provide me with the title and date of the document.

My reason for seeking the information urgently is to enable me to make a better informed submission to the select committee that will consider the Organic Products Bill. This public interest is explicitly recognised in section 4(a)(i) of the OIA, which says that the purpose of that Act is 'to increase progressively the availability of official information to the people of New Zealand in order to enable their more effective participation in the making and administration of laws and policies.'

I look forward to receiving the Ministry's decision and the information sought as soon as reasonably practicable and certainly no later than 20 working days after receipt of this request.

Yours faithfully,

J Bruning

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Please use this email address for all replies to this request:

fyi-request-12987-da8dc5dd@requests.fyi.org.nz

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