

Response: OIA2019.50

21 October 2019

To [REDACTED]

Via email [REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

Information request for information on Mean Distance Between Failure statistics

I refer to your official information request dated 10 September 2019, asking for information on Mean Distance Between Failure (MDBF) statistics for the different mainline locomotive classes.

The attached Excel document shows the monthly faults, kilometres and MDBF by each class of mainline locomotive, both in individual numbers, and as **6-monthly rolling average**. As you will note there is considerable fluctuation in the figures from month to month, which means any analysis should look at long term trends.

You should also note that different generations of DL locomotives have different MDBFs, with the later versions incorporating improvements which have resulted in better performance.

Mean Distance between Failures is only one measure that is looked at when assessing service performance. A more critical measure is whether a failure affected a service or not, measured as a Service Affected Failure (SAF). A SAF is a failure that affects a train service by more than ten minutes. Our focus is on the prevention of SAFs, as they are what affect our On Time Performance and the service we can offer our customers.

Other factors that should be considered alongside the MDBF measurement are what line a locomotive was travelling on, what sort of freight it was carrying and whether it was a just in time or slower freight service.

Under s28 (3) of the Act, you have the right to seek an investigation and review of this response by way of complaint to the Ombudsman. Refer to <http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz> for more information.

We trust this answers your query.

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 by calling free-phone 0800 802 602.

Yours sincerely

Dave

KiwiRail

Official Correspondence Unit