

ENQ-39340-N6H7F2

19 August 2020

██████████
██████████
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Via: ██████████@xtra.co.nz

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Official Information Act Request

Dear ██████████

Thank you for your request received on 23 July, for the following information:

“I make a request for the affidavit of T de Pelsemaker as presented to the Environment Court in support of a request for a ruling on the notification of the Otago Regional Council plans called in by the Minister.”

Your request has been treated as a request for information under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA).

At the EPA we have an Open Book policy, and we try to get as much of our information on our website as possible. We understand that there has been considerable public interest in the Otago Regional Council Water Permits Plan Change and Omnibus Plan Change, which have been called in as proposals of national significance.

Because of this public interest, we will be publishing as much information about the Plan Change as possible on the EPA website <https://www.epa.govt.nz/public-consultations/open-consultations/otago-regional-council-plan-changes/>

This information includes the affidavit you requested, which you can find using this link <https://www.epa.govt.nz/public-consultations/open-consultations/otago-regional-council-plan-changes/water-permits-plan-change/>. The affidavit is under the section “Service of the public notice”.

Because the information you have requested is publicly available, I am refusing your request under s 18(d) of the OIA.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review of this decision by the Ombudsman. You can contact the Ombudsman on 0800 802 602, or by email at info@ombudsman.parliament.nz.

If you have any further queries, please do not hesitate to contact us via ministerials@epa.govt.nz.

We will publish your request and our response on our website, www.epa.govt.nz within 10 working days from today. We make OIA responses available so others can read more about the work we do and the questions we are asked. Any information that might identify you will be removed to protect your privacy.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "MABWard". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Michelle Ward
General Manager
Climate, Land and Oceans