

Official Information Act Request

Requester's details

Date: 20th April 2021.

Name: [REDACTED]

Organisation: New Zealand Plant Producers Incorporated

Email: [REDACTED]@nzppi.co.nz

Reference number: ENQ-41206-J7T2T5

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your request received on 30 March 2021 for the following information:

"the recommendation/s and advice from Gabi Hidvegi and colleagues (including his manager) to the decision-maker, presenting their analysis of the application against the rapid-assessment pathway criteria and recommendations to the decision-maker whether (in their view) the application met or did-not meet the criteria and should or should not proceed via the rapid-assessment pathway, and

the decision-makers written decision that the application did not meet the criteria for rapid-assessment and their reasons why, and that the application would not be considered under this pathway."

Enclosed is the pathway decision memorandum (the memo). The memo is the recommendation and analysis of Gabi Hidvegi, it was peer reviewed by Miriam Robertson, Manager, New Organisms and Dr Chris Hill, General Manager, Hazardous Substances and New Organisms.

The memo was then provided to the decision maker, Siobhan Quayle, Group General Manager, Regulatory Systems and Operations. At the time the decision was made, Siobhan Quayle was the acting Chief Executive of the Environmental Protection Authority.


When a memo is provided to a decision maker they consider the recommendation and analysis in the memo when making their decision. They either agree or do not agree with the recommendation and signal this by ticking the relevant box in the decision part of the memo and then sign the memo. The decision maker does not make a separate written decision. We are therefore refusing this part of your request under section 18(e) of the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA) as the document does not exist.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision. 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



Dr Allan Freeth
Chief Executive
Environmental Protection Authority