

# Official Information Act Request

## Requester's details

**Date:** 25 January 2022

**Name:** [REDACTED]

**Email:** [REDACTED]

**Reference number:** ENQ-43234-J9Y7B6

Dear [REDACTED]

I refer to your request received on 3 January 2022 for the following information:

- “1. Does NZEPA have a policy on weather modification? - if so please provide a link.
2. Please provide all information held regarding applications for aerial discharges of substances to induce or reduce rainfall.
3. Please provide all information held regarding NZ regulations for aerial discharges of substances to induce or reduce rainfall.
4. Please provide all information held regarding the number of public complaints/queries per year for the past 5 years regarding weather modification and/or excessive con/chem trails.”

In regard to points 1-3, I am refusing these under section 18(g) of the Official Information Act 1982, as the information requested is not held by the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) and we have no grounds for believing that the information is either held by another department, or connected more closely with the functions of another department.

In regard to point 4, the EPA received one email during this timeframe, in March 2017. It was also received by the Ministry for the Environment, and that agency responded on behalf of the other recipients.

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](mailto:info@ombudsman.parliament.nz)

If you have any further queries, please do not hesitate to contact us via [ministerials@epa.govt.nz](mailto:ministerials@epa.govt.nz)

We may publish your request and our response on our website, [www.epa.govt.nz](http://www.epa.govt.nz). 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, appearing to read "Allan Freeth". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "A" and "F".

Dr Allan Freeth  
**Chief Executive**