

ENQ-40564-B1D6N0

2 February 2021

[REDACTED]

Via: [REDACTED]

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Wellington 6140, New Zealand

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Official Information Act Request

Dear [REDACTED]

I refer to your request received on 15 December 2020, for the following information:

“1. What are the academic qualifications of the New Organisms Team and how relevant are these qualifications to the subject matter of the application.

2. What is the experience of the team members of the New Organisms Team relevant to the subject matter of the application?”

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

The response to your request follows:

The relevant qualifications held by the New Organisms team are:

- PhD in Biochemistry (two people)
- PhD in Genetics
- Masters of Oceanography and Marine Environments
- Masters of Natural Resource Management and Ecological Engineering (Environmental Management)
- Postgraduate Diploma in Science (Biodiversity and Ecology)

The EPA has a diverse and highly-qualified workforce, as our work calls for expertise across a wide range of disciplines. Technical skills of staff include: toxicology and chemistry, biology and microbial science, marine science, Resource Management Act and planning, Māori lore, accountancy, law, communications and engagement.

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chris Hill".

Chris Hill
General Manager, Hazardous Substances and New Organisms
Regulatory Systems and Operations