

26 June 2024

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Tēnā koe [REDACTED]

Thank you for your request to the Department of Conservation, received on 30 May 2024, in which you asked for:

*“All briefings and communications to and with the conservation minister in the past three months about Chateau Tongariro.”*

We have considered your request under the Official Information Act 1982.

Material in scope of your request is outlined below and accompanies our response as Attachment 1 (items 1 – 3).

Item	Date	Document description	Decision
1	22 February 2024	Email “ATTACHED: 24-B-0063 - Briefing - Chateau Tongariro Decommissioning Options”	Released in part.
2	30 April 2024	Email “RE: SIGNED - 24-B-0063 - Decommissioning Chatea”	Released in part.
3	19 March 2024	24-B-0164 - Email - Who has responsibility for running tender - concession process for Chateau and or Whakapapa - Ruapehu Alpine Lifts	Release in full.

I have decided to release relevant parts of the documents listed above, subject to information being withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the Official Information Act. Information withheld includes the personal contact details of officials – to protect the privacy of natural persons.

The following document is also within scope of your request:

- 24-B-0063 - Briefing – Chateau Tongariro Decommissioning Options

This document is withheld in full under section 9(2)(f)(iv) of the Official Information Act to maintain the current constitutional conventions protecting the confidentiality of advice tendered by Ministers and officials. For context this document remains under active consideration by the Minister. Until such time that a decision is made, this document cannot be released.

In making my decision, I have considered the public interest considerations in section 9(1) of the Official Information Act and determined there are no public interests that outweigh the grounds for withholding.

You are entitled to seek an investigation and review of my decision by writing to an Ombudsman as provided by section 28(3) of the Official Information Act.

Please note that this letter (with your personal details removed) and attached may be published on the Department's website.

[Redacted]

Nāku noa, nā

[Redacted]

CJ Juby  
Director, Business Services  
Department of Conservation  
*Te Papa Atawhai*