

4 July 2023

[REDACTED]

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Tēnā koe [REDACTED]

Thank you for your request to the Department of Conservation, transferred from the Minister of Conservation on 22 May 2023, in which you asked for:

“all advice the minister has received from Department of Conservation officials around the potential harms that offshore energy exploration and development might cause to wildlife in the area.”

On 20 June 2023, we informed you that we had extended your request until 30 June 2023, due to the consultation necessary to respond to you.

We have considered your request under the Official Information Act 1982 and consider the following documents to be in scope.

Item	Date	Document description	Decision
1	19 July 2022	Memo: Wind Quarry Zealandia and the New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement	Released in part
2	10 November 2022	Memo: Key Messages for Oceans and Marine Ministers Group Meeting, 16 November	Released in part
3	11 November 2022	Excerpt from Oceans Weekly Status Report: Offshore renewable energy: Oceans Secretariat approach	Released in part

I have decided to release the relevant parts of the documents listed above, subject to information being withheld under one or more of the following sections of the Official Information Act, as applicable:

- personal contact details of officials, under section 9(2)(a) – to protect the privacy of natural persons, including deceased people,



- commercially sensitive information, under section 9(2)(b)(ii) – to protect the commercial position of the person who supplied the information, or who is the subject of the information,
- free and frank expression under section 9(2)(g)(i) – to maintain the effective conduct of public affairs,

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 documents may be published on the Department's website.

Nāku noa, nā



Sam Thomas
Director Policy
Department of Conservation
Te Papa Atawhai