

12 February 2024

Stephen Prendergast
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Tēnā koe Stephen

Thank you for your enquiry about our response to your Official Information Act 1982 (OIA) request, sent to you on 1 February 2024. Your original request of 15 December 2023 asked for:

In documents DC108/DOC-7365304 DOC requested information from the proposed operators for Whakapapa and Turoa Skifields in order to start assessing their suitability to undertake the concession activity. This was requested to be supplied by June 16 (2023). Please supply the response to that request.

We apologise that our previous response did not capture all documents in scope of your request. As previously advised, our initial review indicated that only one response was received, as the document reference 'DC108/DOC-7365304' related to only one document, and one operator. We have undertaken a further search and located some further information in scope of your request, which is now included below and attached.

Whakapapa Holdings Limited (WHL) responded to the Department's letter on 18 June 2023. This reply consisted of a covering email and attachments as below:

Item	Date	Document description	Decision
1	18 June 2023	FW: RAL Voluntary Administration concession requirements	Released in part - s(9)(2)(a) OIA Note: this email included a copy of the original letter which, having been previously released to you, we have not included again.
2	18 June 2023	WHL letter to the Department	Released in part – s(9)(2)(a) and s9(2)(b)(ii) OIA
3	18 June 2023	WHL Attachment – Forecast Balance Sheet and Profit & Loss Statement	Withheld in full – s9(2)(b)(ii) OIA

As above, item 3 is withheld in full. Items 1 and 2 are being provided to you, subject to information being withheld under the relevant sections of the OIA. The relevant OIA withholding grounds are:

- section 9(2)(a) – to protect the privacy of natural persons; and
- 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.

In making my decision, I have considered the public interest considerations in section 9(1) of the OIA 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 OIA.

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

Nāku noa, nā

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Rachael Jordan', written in a cursive style.

Rachael Jordan
Principal Advisor, Regulatory Services
Department of Conservation
Te Papa Atawhai