



19-E-0460

5 August 2019

Hannah Enderby

Email: [fyi-request-10720-408057a4@requests.fyi.org.nz](mailto:fyi-request-10720-408057a4@requests.fyi.org.nz)

Dear Hannah

Thank you for your Official Information Act request to the Department of Conservation, dated 11 July 2019. You requested the following:

*“How much money do you pay each year to mining companies 2015-2019;*

*Which mining companies paid DOC money in the last 3 years and what were the sums?”*

We requested some further information from you in order to clarify and appropriately scope your request and advised that unless we could do so that we would likely recover the research and collation costs from you. On 18<sup>th</sup> of July you advised via email:

*“I have witnessed the ineptitude and inefficiency of d.o.c paperwork activities before, so I will pass on your offer to fleece me for public information.”*

In terms of your first question, our response is noted below:

1. *“How much money do you pay each year to mining companies 2015-2019”*

The Department has not paid any monies to mining companies over the years 2015-2019.

In terms of your second question:

2. *“Which mining companies paid DOC money in the last 3 years and what were the sums?”*

I regret that I am not able to provide you with the information you seek. Without refinement, your request would require substantial collation for which the recovery of these costs would be required. For context, the Department receives monies from mining companies as cost recovery for processing fees for staff to process applications for a range of approvals required for access. There are also a range of other fees regularly received from mining companies including file management fees and fees paid as compensation for ecological disturbance and/or industrial intrusion onto public conservation land. You have requested this information over a period of three years. Your email response on 18<sup>th</sup> July, indicated that you do not wish to accept the charges associated with researching and collating the response, in which case we are

declining to respond under section 18(f): *that the information requested cannot be made available without substantial collation or research.*

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.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "M Long". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping final flourish.

Marie Long  
Director, Planning Permissions and Land