

20 July 2023

Mark Honeychurch
fyi-request-23413-998ec78f@requests.fyi.org.nz

REF: OIA-13066

Dear Mark

Request made under the Official Information Act 1982

Thank you for your email of 6 July 2023 requesting the following information under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

I would like to know whether dowsing or divining (using dowsing rods, pendulums or other similar equipment) has been used in any of the projects your organisation has funded over the last 5 years. If so, I would like a list of which projects dowsing was used for, how much was spent on dowsing services, and, if possible, who provided/performed the dowsing.

I am aware of one Waka Kotahi project in the last 5 years where dowsing/divining has been utilised – the Waikato Expressway, Hamilton section.

The dowsing was for spirits in areas of significance to iwi during a site walkover of the southern end of the project.

A total of \$140 was spent on the dowsing services. A representative from Ngati Koroki Kahukura carried out the dowsing, as part of the Tangata Whenua Working Group (TWWG) representing the Waikato Tainui. Four hapus made up the TWWG – being Ngati Wairere, Ngati Mahanga, Ngati Hauaa and Ngati Koroki Kahukura.

If you would like to discuss this reply with Waka Kotahi, please contact Ministerial Services, by email to official.correspondence@nzta.govt.nz

Yours sincerely



Mark Kinvig
National Manager