

Hon Penny Simmonds

Minister for the Environment
Minister for Tertiary Education and Skills
Associate Minister for Social Development and Employment



9 November 2024

PSME-OI-24-048

Nick Carraway
fyi-request-29037-0746bd2f@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Nick,

Thank you for your email, dated 4 November 2024, for the following information under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

- *Copies of all letters and emails (including any attachments/appendices) from external organisations (e.g. alcohol & beverage companies) to yourself/your office, relating to the so called 'container return scheme' proposed policy (including similar names that relate to this policy).*
- *Timeframe is from the day you became Minister for the Environment, to today, 4 Nov 2024.*
- *Copies of all letters and emails from yourself/your office to these external organisations in response to any correspondence from them.*

From the 27th of November 2023 to 4 November 2024, there were eight external companies that have contacted my office in relation to a container return scheme. There are twenty-five items of correspondence and email threads in relation to the listed companies. Twelve of these are being released in full, and a further twelve are being released in part, as per the document table in Appendix A. One item of correspondence is being withheld in full under 9(2)(b)(ii) of the Act, as where the making available of the information would be likely unreasonably to prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied or who is the subject of the information.

I am satisfied, in terms of section 9(1) of the Act, that the need to withhold the information referred to above is not outweighed by other considerations that render it desirable, in the public interest, to make the information available.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

Kind regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Penny Simmonds', written in a cursive style.

Hon Penny Simmonds
Minister for the Environment

Appendix A

| Company | Title | Date | OIA sections applied |
|---|---|-------------------|--|
| Acumen (on behalf of Coca Cola) | Coca_Cola_ThisIsForward_FINAL | 15 March 2024 | Release in full |
| | Coca-Cola - To Hon Penny Simmonds | 19 December 2023 | 9(2)(a) |
| | Coca-Cola in New Zealand - Hon Penny Simmonds | 14 February 2024 | 9(2)(a), some information withheld as out of scope |
| Coca Cola Europacific Partners New Zealand | Beverage Industry letter of support for a container return scheme | 1 February 2024 | 9(2)(a), some information withheld as out of scope |
| | Beverage Industry Letter to Minister Simmonds | 1 February 2024 | Release in full |
| Lion New Zealand | Lion Letter Hon. Penny Simmonds | 19 February 2024 | Release in full |
| | Meeting with Lion New Zealand | 19 February 2024 | 9(2)(a), some information withheld as out of scope |
| ReGroup | Letter to Environment Minister | 25 July 2024 | 9(2)(a) |
| | PS-COR0615_CORM-2847 _ Meeting with Re.Group | 26 July 2024 | 9(2)(a), some information withheld as out of scope |
| | PS-COR0653 - Letter from Minister Simmonds | 23 September 2024 | Release in full |
| | PS-COR0790_email | 17 October 2024 | 9(2)(a), some information withheld as out of scope |
| Reloop Platform | Container return scheme letter | 21 March 2024 | 9(2)(a), some information withheld as out of scope |
| | CORTP-1911 Container return scheme for New Zealand | 30 August 2024 | Some information withheld as out of scope |
| | Hon Chris Luxon | 21 March 2024 | Release in full |
| | Hon tama potaka | 30 August 2024 | Release in full |
| TetraPak | CORM-2750 Flavia Vaz | 7 August 2024 | Release in full |
| | Tetra Pak Letter to Minister Simmonds | 2 July 2024 | Release in full |
| | Tetra Pak_ Request for meeting to discuss options for a Container Return Scheme | 3 July 2024 | 9(2)(a), some information withheld as out of scope |
| TOMRA | Infinitum annual report 2022 | N/A | Release in full |
| | Review of Australian Container Refund Schemes - State Commentary | N/A | Release in full |
| | TOMRA - Container Return Scheme | 21 June 2024 | 9(2)(a), 9(2)(b)(ii) |
| | TOMRA Letter to Minister Simmonds 4-4-24 | 4 April 2024 | Release in full |

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|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------|--|
| ValueAdd Services | Container Return Scheme | 25 March 2024 | Release in full |
| | Rangiriri Container Return Scheme | 25 March 2024 | 9(2)(a), some information withheld as out of scope |