



21 May 2026

26-OIAD-00917

Spencer Jones
fyi-request-34429-60eef3ad@requests.fyi.org.nz

Tēnā koe Spencer,

Thank you for your email of 8 April 2026 requesting the following under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) of the Ministry for the Environment (the Ministry):

I request copies of all documents held by the Ministry from 1 January 2011 to present that:

1. Provide policy advice, briefing papers, or internal memoranda relating to:

- geoengineering*
- Solar Radiation Management (SRM)*
- Marine Cloud Brightening (MCB)*
- atmospheric aerosol interventions*

2. Relate to governance, regulation, or oversight frameworks for geoengineering, whether domestic or international.

3. Include correspondence (emails, letters, or meeting notes) between the Ministry and:

- Earth Sciences New Zealand / NIWA*
- Royal Society Te Apārangi*
- Ministry of Transport*
- Maritime New Zealand*
- MBIE*

4. Reference:

- the 2011 Royal Society workshop*
- subsequent consideration of geoengineering in NZ policy.*

I am refusing your request in full under section 18(e) of the Act as the documents alleged to contain the information requested do not exist or, despite reasonable efforts to locate them, cannot be found.

The Ministry has not permitted or authorised, conducted, commissioned, or otherwise contributed to any studies, activities, research, implementation, projects, or experiments relating to geoengineering, Solar Radiation Management (SRM), Marine Cloud Brightening (MCB), or atmospheric aerosol interventions and does not have any current or future plans to do so. We have interpreted your request for information about geoengineering activities to mean any activities which alter solar radiation or involve atmospheric intervention as defined by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC).

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Office of the Ombudsman of my decisions relating to this request, in accordance with section 28(3) of the Act. The relevant details can be found at: www.ombudsman.parliament.nz.

Please note that due to the public interest in our work, the Ministry publishes responses to requests for official information shortly after the response has been sent on our website at: <https://environment.govt.nz/about-us/official-information-act-requests/>. If you have any queries about this, please feel free to contact our Ministerial Services team at: ministerials@mfe.govt.nz.

Nāku noa, nā



Sarah Kenward
Manager – Hazardous Substances Policy
Ministry for the Environment | Manatū Mō Te Taiao