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A1517017

7 December 2016

W Shih
fyi-request-4718-cf61b78f@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear W Shih

I refer to your email dated 9 November 2016 in which you request the following:

Whether GCSB has opened/conducted any investigation into Greenpeace NZ. If so, please include any documents relating to the investigation(s).

In response to your request, under section 10 of the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act), I can neither confirm nor deny whether GCSB has opened or conducted any investigation into Greenpeace NZ. To do so would likely prejudice the interests protected by section 6(a) of the Act, specifically, the security or defence of New Zealand.

The reason section 6(a) applies is because, as an intelligence and security agency, we cannot confirm to every requester whether or not we have opened or conducted an investigation into a particular organisation. Over time, we would reveal too much information about what we are or are not interested in. Allowing or enabling a public picture of our interests would be an untenable security and intelligence outcome and would interfere with New Zealand's legitimate national security interests.

In accordance with section 19 of the Act, you have the right to seek an investigation and review of the refusal by way of complaint to an Ombudsman under section 28(3).

Yours sincerely


Andrew Hampton
Director