



## Office of Hon Tony Ryall

Minister of Health  
Minister for State Owned Enterprises

12 SEP 2012

Colin England  
fyi-request-494-fc685676@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Mr England

Thank you for your Official Information Act request, which was transferred to me by the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE) on 21 August 2012. You requested the following:

*"On the 20th of June 2012 Hon TONY RYALL (Minister of Health) on behalf of the Minister of Energy and Resources during Question Time in response to Question 6 said that he had received two pieces of advice from the Ministry of Economic Development regarding power prices and the research done by Molly Melhuish.*

*Can I please have a copy of this advice?"*

The information on electricity prices used by MBIE to provide the two pieces of advice to me is available on the internet at:

<http://www.med.govt.nz/sectors-industries/energy/electricity/prices/electricity-tariff-surveys/quarterly-survey>

Because the two pieces of advice from MBIE were provided to me to assist in answering a Parliamentary Question, I have decided to withhold the advice in full under section 9(2)(ba)(ii) of the Official Information Act 1982, "to protect information which is subject to an obligation of confidence or which any person has been or could be compelled to provide under the authority of any enactment, where the making available of the information ... would be likely otherwise to damage the public interest".

In making my decision, I have considered the public interest considerations in section 9(1) of the Official Information Act.

This fully covers the information you requested.

You have the right to ask the Ombudsman to investigate and review my decision.

However, you may be interested in the following two documents, which are emails to my office from the Treasury regarding electricity prices. These documents are publicly available on the Crown Ownership Monitoring Unit's website at:

<http://comu.govt.nz/resources/pdfs/mixed-ownership-model/mom-2405307-em1.pdf>

<http://comu.govt.nz/resources/pdfs/mixed-ownership-model/mom-2405307-em2.pdf>

And finally, you may also be interested in Treasury's advice on the regulation of the electricity market, which is relevant to the question I answered in Parliament. This report can be found at:

<http://comu.govt.nz/resources/pdfs/mixed-ownership-model/mom-2285921.pdf>

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Tony Ryall', with a horizontal line underneath.

Hon Tony Ryall  
**Minister for State Owned Enterprises**