



NEW ZEALAND
FOREIGN AFFAIRS & TRADE



New Zealand Ministry of
Foreign Affairs and Trade
Manatū Aorere

19 January 2018

Jan Rivers
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Dear Jan Rivers,

I refer to your email of 30 November 2017 in which you request the following under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA):

"A footnote in this report states:

The provision does not cover the 'wholesale trade and retail of bottled mineral, aerated and natural water' Ridings notes that the 'processing and manufacturing' of bottled water is covered, meaning 'that you can take measures to limit the involvement of foreigners in bottled water production' : transcript 4 1 2, pp 741-742

Given the news today that a tax cannot be applied to bottled water to be exported in part because of existing trade agreements can you please provide the MFAT evidence and advice on which Dr Penelope Ridings made this statement including any correspondence and reports discussing how this should be expressed and the basis that "processing and manufacturing" was at that time understood to create a legislative option preventing the involvement of foreigners in bottled water production."

This letter advises that due to the necessity for further consultation, we will need to extend the time limit for responding to you by 20 working days, to 19 February 2018. It is possible however, that even with this extension, we may be unable to release material relevant to your request.

You have the right under section 28(3) of the OIA to seek a review of this response by the Ombudsman.

Yours sincerely

Wendy Adams
for Acting Secretary of Foreign Affairs and Trade