



29 FEB 2016

16-D-00142

Malcolm Scott

Dear Mr Scott

Thank you for your email of 8 February 2016 requesting the following information under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA):

Please provide details of the following:

- 1. A summary (or record/log) of instances/sightings of aerosol forcing (chemtrails) reported by the public to MFE.*
- 2. Written procedures for investigation to substantiate or verify reports of aerosol operations in NZ airspace.*
- 3. Preparations being undertaken by your office/MFE (and/or advice to other ministries) for the monitoring and regulation of aerosol operators.*
- 4. Policy consultation and development underway to cover points 1., 2. & 3.*
- 5. Written advice provided to (or being prepared for) briefing HON Paula Bennett about public concerns/reports of aerosol forcing (chemtrails) since her appointment to Minister for Climate Change Issues in December 2015.*

On 12 February you clarified the scope of your request, confirming that:

- For this request, question 1. Above would be restricted to the past 3 years*
- The term "aerosol operators" in question 3. Refers to high altitude aircraft operations only.*

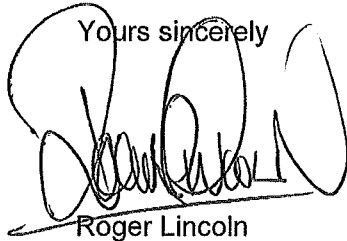
For question 1, the attached table lists the documents falling within the scope of your request, the dates and locations of "instances/sightings" reported, and notes any OIA provisions that have been applied.

For questions 2 to 5, the Ministry for the Environment holds no documents or instructions relating to your request. I have therefore declined these requests under section 18(e) of the OIA, as the document does not exist. The information provided in the instances/sightings reported to the Ministry has not provided evidence of anything other than vapour trails left by aircraft or clouds formed by natural processes so no further investigation has been warranted.

New Zealand is not involved in any programme of geoengineering or atmospheric aerosol solar radiation management.

Under section 28(3) of the OIA, you have the right to ask the Ombudsman to review my response to your request.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Roger Lincoln', written over a horizontal line.

Roger Lincoln
Director Climate Change

Summary of instances/sightings of aerosol forcing (chemtrails) reported to MFE

No.	Date	Source document	Information reported	OIA Section/s applied
1	18 Mar 2014	Departmental correspondence	7 March 2014 in Wellington	9 (2) (a) *
2	1 Dec 2015	Departmental correspondence (info@mfe enquiry)	30 November 2015 Waikari, North Canterbury. 7 September 2013 Waikari, North Canterbury. 5 July 2015 unspecified location 9 August 2013 unspecified location	9 (2) (a)
3	7 Dec 2015	Departmental correspondence (info@mfe enquiry)	14 November 2015 in Whangarei	9 (2) (a)
4	8 Dec 2015	Departmental correspondence (info@mfe enquiry)	Reports sightings "almost daily" for four years, in the Rangitikei, the Manawatu, Whanganui and Hawke's Bay	9 (2) (a)
5	8 Dec 2015	Departmental correspondence (info@mfe enquiry)	Wellington, no date	9 (2) (a)
6	11 Dec 2015	Departmental correspondence (info@mfe enquiry)	27 July 27 2012 Nelson 23 January 2013 Whangarei 6 June 2014 Christchurch	9 (2) (a)

* To protect the privacy of natural persons