



MAJOR ELECTRICITY USERS' GROUP

3 December 2007

Office of the Ombudsmen

By email attached to online complaint form and to complaint@ombudsmen.parliament.nz

Dear Madam/Sir

Complaint in relation to delays in receiving replies to three OIA requests

1. The Major Electricity Users' Group (MEUG) has made the following requests for information:
 - a) Letter to the Minister for Climate Change Issues, Hon David Parker, titled *Official Information Act request for information in relation to Climate Change policy announcements of 20th September 2007* dated 5th October 2007.

The Minister acknowledged receipt of this request on 8th October. On 29th October the Minister, pursuant to s.15A of the OIA, advised an extension to the date to respond to this request with effect from 24th October.
 - b) Letter to the Minister for Climate Change Issues, Hon David Parker, titled *Official Information Act request for information in relation to Climate Change Leadership Forum* dated 12th October 2007.

The Minister acknowledged receipt of this request on 15th October.
 - c) Letter to the Minister of Energy, Hon David Parker, titled *Official Information Act request in relation to ban on new base load thermal generation* dated 16th October 2007.

The Minister acknowledged receipt of this request on 18th October.
2. Over the last few weeks I have been in contact with the Ministers office seeking advice on when replies would be received given the wide ranging impact of the climate change announcements of 20th September, the NZ Energy Strategy published 11th October and the imminent tabling of a bill(s) in the House this week to implement these announcements. I accept compiling this material is complex hence have accepted some time delay. Some of the requested information has also since been published by government. But a lot of the requested information has not been published and is very material to allow the public to hold government to account.
3. With relevant bill(s) likely to be introduced this week I agreed in a telephone discussion last Friday with the Ministers office that I would physically take delivery of replies today or if the material was not released would make a complaint to the Office of the Ombudsmen. In that discussion I understood that the information was almost in a form to be released. It is therefore as a last resort that this complaint is lodged.

Yours sincerely

Ralph Matthes
Executive Director

cc Office of Hon David Parker