



OIA17-0390

9 AUG 2017

Dear

OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT REQUEST

I refer to your official information request on 21 June 2017 relating to any export documentation and photos from 1 January 2015 to 21 June 2017 for swamp kauri exports to Ancientwood Ltd (USA).

As stated in our previous correspondence with you, while MPI has a duty to give reasonable assistance to people to make their request (section 13 of the Act), it is also important that requests for official information contain sufficient clarity for MPI to identify the official information requested.

In considering your request, we have identified one shipment with a related 'Notice of Intention to Export Indigenous Timber' (ITE) form and documentation. In this instance your request for *any export documentation* may have been more appropriately responded to by the New Zealand Customs Service, as the agency which administers the Customs and Excise Act, and associated Regulations. This legislation prescribes the documentation required to export goods.

Please note that MPI no longer routinely requests the buyer/consignee for indigenous timber exports which require the submission of an ITE, as this information is not required in MPI's statutory decision making under Section 67C of the Forests Act.

This information is released to you under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA), subject to the withholding of personal details under section 9(2)(a) of the OIA – to protect the privacy of individuals, and 9(2)(b)(ii) – to protect information where the making available of the information would be likely unreasonably prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied or who is the subject of the information.

MPI is satisfied that in the circumstances of this case, the withholding of the information is not outweighed by other considerations which render it desirable in the public interest to make the information available. You have the right under section 28(3) of the OIA to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of our decision to withhold information.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'O. Hendrickson', written over the printed name.

Oliver Hendrickson
Director Spatial, Forestry and Land Management