

The Chief Executive
Ministry of Fisheries
P O Box 1020
Wellington
Email: Wayne.McNee@fish.govt.nz

21 August 2008

Dear Sir

Urgent - Official Information Request – Fisheries Act 1996 Amendment Bill (No.2) 240-1 (2008)

Following discussion at the Primary Production Select Committee hearing for the proposed amendment to section 13 of the Fisheries Act 1996 the Hokianga Accord, the New Zealand Big Game Fishing Council and option4 make the following requests for information concerning the Fisheries Act 1996 Amendment Bill (No.2) pursuant to the Official Information Act 1982.

The request is made for an urgent response pursuant to section 12(3) of the Official Information Act. The reason for urgency is that the information is sought before the second reading of the Fisheries Act 1996 Amendment Bill, including:

1. All correspondence held from any of the following: the Minister, the Ministry of Fisheries, commercial fishers (including commercial fishers representatives, consultants, and lawyers), Treasury, prior to and related to the Fisheries Act 1996 Amendment Bill (No.2), from 1 February 2008 onwards.
2. Any policy advice or other documents in the nature of departmental advice to the government from MFish, other government departments and Treasury, prior to and related to the Fisheries Act 1996 Amendment Bill (No.2), from 1 February 2008 onwards.
3. Any documents released for the purpose of consultation prior to the release of the Fisheries Act 1996 Amendment Bill (No.2).
4. Any records of meetings including minutes, notes of conversations and reports of the MFish-led meeting held in Wellington on April 10th 2008 to discuss the outcome and implications of the High Court judgment relating to the Antons Trawling Company Limited v the Minister of Fisheries (CIV 2007-485-2199, 22 February 2008).
5. Any Cabinet papers relating to the Fisheries Act 1996 Amendment Bill (No.2).
6. Any Select Committee reports relating to the Fisheries Act 1996 Amendment Bill (No.2).
7. Any document in the nature of a Memorandum of Understanding or other Agreement between commercial fishers and the Crown and its representatives concerning the Fisheries Act 1996 Amendment Bill (No.2).
8. A copy of the MFish file on the Fisheries Act 1996 Amendment Bill including any communications (letters, emails etc) to and from the commercial fishers, MFish file notes, notes of meetings (internal and external) and telephone calls, minutes of meetings (internal and external), all drafts of any proposed amendment to either section 10 or section 13 prepared for or by MFish, or submitted to MFish for consideration from 1 February 2008 onwards.
9. Any drafts of the Fisheries Act 1996 Amendment Bill or sections or subsections thereof.

Please acknowledge this request and forward electronic copies of any documents to trish@option4.co.nz or mail to Paul Barnes, PO Box 37-951, Parnell, Auckland.

Please note the urgent nature of this request.

Yours faithfully



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