

Hobart GPO Box 44, Hobart, Tasmania, 7001

Launceston PO Box 46, Kings Meadows, Tasmania, 7249

Devonport PO Box 303, Devonport, Tasmania, 7310

Ph 1300 368 550

Web www.dpipwe.tas.gov.au

Enquiries: Marion March

Phone: (03) 6165 3138

Fax: (03) 6233 0865

Email: right2info@dpipwe.tas.gov.au

Our ref: RTI 019 2014-15

Mr Clive Stott

Dear Mr Stott

Right to Information Act – substantial and unreasonable diversion of resources

I refer to your application made pursuant to the *Right to Information Act 2009* (the Act) and received by the Department of Primary Industries, Parks, Water and Environment (DPIPWE) on 10 October 2014, where you requested:

Information that was not publicly released in relation to the field trip of EPA air monitoring staff who travelled to the Morwell area in February 2014. This request is also for diary entries, emails, and any other correspondence or notes pertaining to that field trip, either made then or afterwards.

Section 19(1) of the Act states:

If the public authority or Minister dealing with a request is satisfied that the work involved in providing the information requested –

- (a) would substantially and unreasonably divert the resources of the public authority from its other work; or*
- (b) would interfere substantially and unreasonably with the performance by that Minister of the Minister's other functions –*

having regard to –

- (c) the matters specified in Schedule 3 –*

the public authority or Minister may refuse to provide the information without identifying, locating or collating the information.

Based on my consideration of Schedule 3 and enquiries to date, including consultation with EPA Tasmania, I am satisfied that the work involved in providing the information requested would result in a substantial and unreasonable diversion of resources.

Section 19(2) of the Act states:

A public authority or Minister must not refuse to provide information by virtue of subsection (1) without first giving the applicant a reasonable opportunity to consult the public authority or

Minister with a view to the applicant being helped to make an application in a form that would remove the ground for refusal.

Accordingly I propose that an officer of EPA Tasmania and a Delegated officer under the Act hold a meeting with you in order to discuss the scope of your request to assist you to refine your application. Please contact me on 6165 3134 (Tuesday to Thursday) in order to schedule a meeting.

If I do not hear from you within 5 business days from the date on this letter, you will be issued with a decision refusing to process your application.

Yours sincerely



Marion March
Senior Policy Analyst - Legal
Delegated officer under the *Right to Information Act 2009*

28 October 2014