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Dear Mr Swain

Re - Freedom of Information Request: No. 2014-15 017

I refer to your request to the National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) under the *Freedom of Information Act 1982* (the FOI Act) for any information that NHMRC holds that relates to the 2010 NICNAS Report on Multiple Chemical Sensitivity.

Timeframe for receiving your decision

The statutory timeframe for processing a request is 30 days, starting from the day after the day on which your application was received by NHMRC. Therefore, the due date for a decision on your request is 17 April 2015.

The period for processing this FOI request covers a 4 day period during which NHMRC is shut down due to the Easter break. There are limited staff members available to process the FOI request. Given the date of the report, and the fact that it does not specifically relate to the work of the NHMRC, we have had to contact staff across the agency in an attempt to identify any and all relevant documents. Our search has involved an extensive search of our electronic records which is proving time consuming.

In view of the factors outlined above we are seeking your agreement to extend the timeframe of this FOI request by an additional 30 days. This would give a due date for a decision of 17 May 2015.

In addition, this timeframe may be extended where:

- charges are levied as prescribed by the Freedom of Information (Fees and Charges) Regulations 1982 (the FOI Regulations)(see charges below);
- consultation with third parties is necessary (see consultation with third parties below).

If you agree to granting an extension it would be greatly appreciated if you could respond by the 9th April.

If you have any queries throughout the process please contact the FOI office on (02) 6217 9406.

Yours sincerely

Jennifer Campain

A/g Executive Director

Evidence, Advice and Governance

2 April 2015