



Our ref: DIISR15/09846

GPO Box 9839
Canberra ACT 2601 Australia
Web: www.industry.gov.au
ABN: 74 599 608 295

Mr Jackson Gothe-Snape

By email: foi+request-1134-13e2b090@righttoknow.org.au

Freedom of Information Act – Notice of intention to refuse

Dear Mr Gothe-Snape

I refer to your request received by the Department of Industry and Science (the department) on 10 July 2015 in which you sought access under the *Freedom of Information Act 1982* (the FOI Act) to:

“... copies of emails sent or received on 9 July 2015 mentioning "South Australia", "South Australian", "SA" or "Adelaide".

I note that on 10 July 2015, the department sought clarification from you regarding the scope of request. On the same day you confirmed that you sought:

“...copies of emails sent or received that are identified by a text search of the Department's email records for the terms "South Australia", "South Australian", "SA" and "Adelaide", restricted to the date 9 July 2015”

Practical refusal reason

Under subsection 24(1) of the FOI Act, I am satisfied that a practical refusal reason exists in relation to this request. The practical refusal reason is that the work involved in processing the request would substantially and unreasonably divert the resources of the department from its other operations.

I note that the department's initial search has identified 142 documents which are related to this request. This initial search only reveals a summary of the emails covered by the scope of your request. Further recovery of the full text of emails with multiple recipients, as is the case in respect of your request, can take weeks to run and has major impact on system-wide performance of the department's ICT infrastructure. In light of this, I estimate the time required to process this request would exceed at least one hundred hours.

In accordance with section 24(1)(a) and 24AB of the FOI Act, I am writing to provide you with written notice that I intend to refuse your request on the grounds that a practical refusal reason exists and to initiate a request consultation process in accordance with section 24AB of the FOI Act.

Request consultation process

Before I make a decision to refuse your request under section 24(1)(b) of the FOI Act, I would like to provide you with the opportunity to revise the scope of your request so that a 'practical refusal reason' no longer exists. Although it is your responsibility to suggest ways that your request may be revised and narrowed, you may consider to limiting your request to a small number of named email recipients (not more than 8).

Should you wish to revise your request, you must do so **within 14 days** after the day you are given this notice (unless extended by agreement with the department). If you are unable to meet this deadline and wish to arrange an extension of time in which to consider this matter, or would like to discuss how you could best revise the scope of the request, please contact the FOI team per the details below.

Under subsection 24AB(6) of the FOI Act, you must, before the end of the 14-day consultation period, do one of the following by written notice to the department:

- a) withdraw the request;
- b) make a revised request; or
- c) indicate that you do not wish to revise the request.

Please note that under subsection 24AB(7), the request is taken to have been withdrawn at the end of the 14 day consultation period if:

- (a) the applicant does not consult the contact person during the consultation period in accordance with this notice; or
- (b) the applicant does not do one of the things mentioned in subsection(6) before the end of the consultation period.

In accordance with subsection 24AB(8) of the FOI Act, the 14-day consultation period is to be disregarded in calculating the processing period for the request.

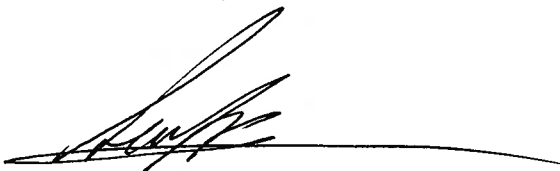
Your written response should be addressed to:

FOI Coordinator
Department of Industry & Science
GPO Box 9839
CANBERRA ACT 2601

Or by email to: FOI@industry.gov.au

Should you wish to discuss this matter further, please contact the FOI team on (02) 6102 8104.

Yours sincerely,



Scott Nilsen
A/g General Manager
ICT Operations

30 July 2015