



Australian Government
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

FOI Ref: 1305-F568
24 May 2013

Red
foi+request-118-1d471f8a@righttoknow.org.au

Dear Red,

Re: Freedom of Information (FOI) Request

I refer to your e-mail of 24 May 2013 in which you seek access under the provisions of the *Freedom of Information Act 1982* (FOI Act) to:

12/10932 TRADE - AGREEMENTS - Free Trade Agreements (FTA) - Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) reporting and other Issues (Not Membership)
12/10899 TRADE - AGREEMENTS - Free Trade Agreements (FTA) - Australia-US Free Trade Agreement (AUSFTA) Post-Implementation
12/11019 TRADE - AGREEMENTS - Trans Pacific Partnership (TPP)

I am authorised under section 23 of the FOI Act to make decisions, and have been appointed to be the decision-maker on your request in line with departmental procedures.

I refer to my e-mail of 23 May 2013 giving notice of intention to refuse your request as currently framed, on the grounds that the work involved in processing it would substantially and unreasonably divert DFAT's resources from its other operations.

I note from your response that you have declined to revise the scope of your request.

Therefore, I refuse your request pursuant to section 24AA(1)(a)(i) of the FOI Act.

Please find your rights of review outlined below.

Internal review

Under the provisions of section 54 of the FOI Act, you are entitled to request a review of my access refusal decision. Your request should be made in writing and sent within 30 days of receipt of this letter addressed to:

Director
Freedom of Information and Privacy Law Section
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade
R G Casey Building
John McEwen Crescent
BARTON ACT 0221

Australian Information Commissioner

Under the provisions of section 54 of the FOI Act, you are entitled to request a review by the Australian Information Commissioner of my access refusal decision. You may also make a complaint to the Australian Information Commissioner under section 70 on the Department's performance of its functions or the exercise of power under the FOI Act.

Your request for review or complaint should be addressed to:

Office of the Australian Information Commissioner
GPO Box 2999
CANBERRA ACT 2601
Email: enquiries@oaic.gov.au
Telephone: 1300 363 992
Fax: (02) 9284 9666

Complaints to the Commonwealth Ombudsman

You may complain to the Ombudsman concerning actions taken by an agency in the exercise of its powers or, more specifically, the performance of its functions under the FOI Act. There is no fee for making a complaint. The Ombudsman will conduct an independent investigation of your complaint.

You may complain to the Ombudsman by calling or writing to:

Commonwealth Ombudsman
Level 5, Childers Square,
14 Childers Street
Canberra City ACT 2601
ombudsman@ombudsman.gov.au
Telephone: 1300 362 072
Fax: (02) 6276 0123

Should you have any queries regarding this matter please contact your FOI case officer, John Scott, on (02)6261 3212 or by email to foi@dfat.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'A. Cheung', with a stylized, flowing script.

Ada Cheung
a/g Director
Freedom of Information and Privacy Law Section
Domestic Legal Branch