LEGAL AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS

TRIM Ref: F18/192

9 January 2018

Rob Cumming

Via email: Rob Cumming foi+request-4290-61ab08a4@righttoknow.org.au

Dear Rob,

ACCESS TO DOCUMENTS UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 1982

I refer to your email dated 1 January 2018 seeking access to documents under the *Freedom of Information Act 1982* (Cth) (the Act), namely documents in relation to Josh Hoch and/or Hoch Air Pty Ltd and application(s) for an Air Operators Certificate between January 2013 and December 2017 and aircraft owned/operated by either or both the entities.

I am an officer authorised under section 23(1) of the Act to make decisions in relation to freedom of information requests.

I am writing to tell you that I believe that the work involved in processing your request in its current form would substantially and unreasonably divert the resources of this agency from its other operations due to its size and broad scope. This is called a 'practical refusal reason' (section 24AA).

On this basis, I intend to refuse access to the documents you requested. However, before I make a final decision to do this, you have an opportunity to revise your request. This is called a 'request consultation process' as set out under section 24AB of the Act. You have 14 days to respond to this notice in one of the ways set out below.

Why I intend to refuse your request

I have decided that a practical refusal reason exists because:

- Searches relating to your request have identified in excess of potentially 3000 documents, containing more than 15,000 pages; and
- Due to the sensitivity of the documents, exemptions may need to be applied. It is expected that additional time will be required to apply appropriate redactions and/or exempt documents; and
- Consultation with numerous third parties may be required; and
- Reviewing and indexing these documents could be expected to take more than 4 weeks.

You now have an opportunity to revise your request to enable it to proceed.

Before the end of this consultation period, you must do 1 of the following, in writing:

1. withdraw your request

- 2. make a revised request
- 3. tell us that you do not wish to revise your request.

The consultation period runs for 14 days and starts on the day after you receive this notice.

During this period, you are welcome to seek assistance from the contact person I have listed below to revise your request. If you revise your request in a way that adequately addresses the practical refusal grounds outlined above, I will recommence processing it (please note that the time taken to consult you regarding the scope of your request is not taken into account for the purposes of the 30 day time limit for processing your request).

If you do not do 1 of the 3 things above during the consultation period or you do not consult me as the contact officer during this period, your request will be taken to have been withdrawn.

Contact officer

If you would like to revise your request or have any questions, I am the contact officer for your request, and am contactable as detailed below:

Phone: 02 6217 1281, Fax: 02 6217 1607

Email: david.gobbitt@casa.gov.au

Mail: GPO Box 2005, Canberra ACT 2601

ÿurs sincerely,

David Gobbitt

Freedom of Information Officer Legal and Regulatory Affairs Division

Advisory and Drafting Branch Civil Aviation Safety Authority

Email address: david.gobbitt@casa.gov.au