



Australian Government
Civil Aviation Safety Authority

LEGAL AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS

TRIM Ref: F18/2098

6 April 2018

Michael Galbraith

Via email: Michael Galbraith foi+request-4455-744c0d3c@righttoknow.org.au

Dear Michael,

ACCESS TO DOCUMENTS UNDER THE *FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 1982*

I refer to your email dated 29 March 2018 seeking access to documents under the *Freedom of Information Act 1982* (Cth) (the Act). Your request is for documents that are held by CASA in relation to reports of unsafe remotely operated aircraft (drones) made in 2017, specifically:

1. Reports made to CASA of unsafe remotely operated aircraft (drones) made in 2017; and
2. Documents in connection with CASA's response to the reports in point 1.

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 his 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 the request

I have decided that a practical refusal reason exists because:

- Searches relating to the request have identified approximately 5,000 documents comprising in excess of 10,000 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 will be required; and
- Reviewing and indexing these documents could be expected to take more than 3 weeks.

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

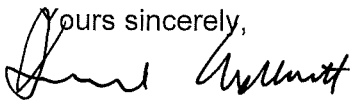
Before the end of this consultation period, you must do 1 of the following, in writing:

1. withdraw the request
2. make a revised request
3. tell us that he does not wish to revise his 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 me. If you revise the 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 the request is not taken into account for the purposes of the 30 day time limit for processing the 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.

Yours sincerely,


David Gobbitt
Freedom of Information Officer
Advisory and Drafting Branch
Legal and Regulatory Affairs Division
Civil Aviation Safety Authority