



28 June 2022

Our ref: FOI

Mr Mitchel Bradley

Via email: foi+request-8961-dce9d452@righttoknow.org.au

Dear Mr Bradley

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST – DECISION FOI2022/27

I refer to your request of 29 May 2022 under which you sought access under the *Freedom of Information Act 1982* (FOI Act) to:

“the document(s) identified as: DR 07920, On-site domestic wastewater management.”

I am an authorised decision maker under section 23 of the FOI Act. This letter sets out my decision and reasons for the decision in relation to your request.

Decision

Despite an extensive search, CSIRO has been unable to identify the document that you have requested. I must therefore refuse access, pursuant to section 24A of the FOI Act on the basis that the document sought cannot be found.

Searches conducted

Searches were conducted by relevant CSIRO line area staff as well as Records and Library staff at CSIRO. We also contacted Standards Australia to enquire about the document. They advised that draft documents like the one you requested, remain publicly available after they are produced for public comment for an approximate 8-week period. The draft document is then removed from public view and reviewed by the relevant committee so it can be finalised and published as the relevant standard. I confirm the relevant current standard document linked to the draft document requested, is available for a fee via the Standards Australia website.

I note your advice that CSIRO was represented on the committee that prepared the draft document that you have requested. CSIRO has been unable to identify any such document in its records.

Rights of Review

In accordance with section 26(1)(c) of the FOI Act, a statement setting out your rights of review under the Act is at **Attachment A**.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "AKent". The letters are cursive and connected.

Annabel Kent
Legal Counsel
CSIRO

Review rights

You are entitled to seek review of this decision.

Internal Review

Firstly, under section 54 of the FOI Act, you may apply for an internal review of the decision. Your application must be made by whichever date is the later between:

30 days of you receiving this notice; or 15 days of you receiving the documents to which you have been granted access.

An internal review will be conducted by a different officer from the original decision-maker. No particular form is required to apply for review although it will assist your case to set out in the application the grounds on which you believe that the original decision should be overturned. An application for a review of the decision should be addressed to:

FOI Coordinator,
FOI@csiro.au

If you choose to seek an internal review, you will subsequently have a right to apply to the Australian Information Commissioner for a review of the internal review decision.

External review by the Australian Information Commissioner

Alternatively, under 54L of the FOI Act, you may seek review of this decision by the Australian Information Commissioner without first going to internal review. Your application must be made within 60 days of you receiving this notice.

The Information Commissioner is an independent office holder who may review decisions of agencies and Ministers under the FOI Act. More information is available on the Information Commissioner's website www.oaic.gov.au.

You can contact the Information Commissioner to request a review of a decision online or by writing to the Information Commissioner at:

GPO Box 2999
Canberra ACT 2601

Complaints to Ombudsman or Information Commissioner

You may complain to either the Commonwealth Ombudsman or the Information Commissioner about action taken by CSIRO in relation to the application. The Ombudsman will consult with the Information Commissioner before investigating a complaint about the handling of an FOI request.

Your enquiries to the Ombudsman can be directed to:

Phone 1300 362 072 (local call charge)

Email ombudsman@ombudsman.gov.au

Your enquiries to the Information Commissioner can be directed to:

Phone 1300 363 992 (local call charge)

Email enquiries@oaic.gov.au

There is no particular form required to make a complaint to the Ombudsman or the Information Commissioner. The request should be in writing and should set out the grounds on which it is considered that the action taken in relation to the request should be investigated and identify CSIRO as the relevant agency.