



LEGAL, INTERNATIONAL AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS

RMS Ref: F23/37176

██████████
Via email: ██████████

Dear ████████,

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

I refer to your email dated 1 December 2023 seeking access to documents under the *Freedom of Information Act 1982* (the Act). Your request was for:

Documents in relation to any "special purpose operation" notified to CASA or permitted by CASA specifically for the purpose of "weather control" and/or "atmospheric research" and/or "cloud seeding" ("Purposes") in the last 5 years. My understanding is that a special flight permit would need to be issued for aircraft carrying out any of the above Purposes. I seek those copies of those permits, any applications made for those permits, and any reports to CASA of unpermitted activity for those Purposes.

See CIVIL AVIATION SAFETY REGULATIONS 1998 - REG 91.845
http://classic.austlii.edu.au/au/legis/cth/consol_reg/casr1998333/s91.845.html

See page 121 of AMC/GM Part 91 v2.4 <https://www.casa.gov.au/part-91-general-operating-and-flight-rules-amc-gm>

The date range for your access request is 1 January 2018 to 1 December 2023. You do not require the names of any CASA staff or third parties contained in the documents.

Decision

I am the decision maker for your request.

In accordance with subparagraph 24A(1)(b)(ii) of the Act, I refuse your request for access as I am satisfied the documents you are seeking do not exist.

In conducting this search, I have examined CASA's records management system, which returned nil results of relevance based on the keywords of your request. I have also liaised with CASA's Regulatory Oversight Division who confirmed CASA does not provide specific approvals for the purposes as outlined in the scope of your request, therefore I am satisfied there are no documents to provide in scope of your request.

Application for internal review of decision

Section 54 of the Act gives you the right to apply for an internal review of my decision. An application for internal review of my decision must be made in writing within 30 days of receipt of this letter.

No particular form is required, but it is desirable to set out in the application the grounds on which you consider that the decision should be reviewed. An application for review should be addressed to Freedom of Information at the address below:

Freedom of Information
Advisory and Drafting Branch
Legal and Regulatory Affairs Division
Civil Aviation Safety Authority
GPO Box 2005
Canberra ACT 2601

Review by the Australian Information Commissioner

Alternatively, under section 54L of the Act, you may apply to the Australian Information Commissioner to review my decision. An application for review by the Information Commissioner must be made in writing within 60 days of the date of this letter, and be lodged in one of the following ways:

online: https://forms.business.gov.au/smartforms/servlet/SmartForm.html?formCode=ICR_10
email: foidr@oaic.gov.au
post: Director of FOI Dispute Resolution, OAIC, GPO Box 5218, Sydney NSW 2001
phone: 02 9284 9666

Yours sincerely



Keeley Phengrasmy
Freedom of Information Officer
Advisory and Drafting Branch
Legal, International and Regulatory Affairs Division
Civil Aviation Safety Authority

7 December 2023