

23 March 2021

[REDACTED]

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Tēnā koe [REDACTED]

Thank you for your Official Information Act request to the Department of Conservation, dated 23 February 2021.

You requested the following:

“In light of the recent RNZ reveal that a 106,000 tonne stockpile of very toxic spent pot linings are stored close to the open sea, can you answer this. Is that stockpile on DOC land leased to the smelter or is it within the smelters own freehold site?

Can DOC also confirm the compliance process required to monitor such under the provisions of your lease/s are up to date and meet the full terms terms of your lease?”

I have summarised your query as two questions;

1. Is the stockpile referenced by Radio New Zealand on land administered by the Department of Conservation?
2. Can the Department confirm the compliance process relating to the stockpile with regard to the current lease agreement?

Answers;

1. The stockpile is on land owned by Pacific Aluminium (New Zealand) Limited.
2. As the stockpile activity is not on conservation land the Department has no authority to carry out any compliance process on the activity therefore, cannot answer this question. The responsibility for compliance on this land actually rests with the Regional Council.

The following document produced from the Department of Conservation GIS system falls within the scope of your request and is attached:



Item	Date	Document description	Decision
1	04/03/21	Relationship of conservation land to stockpile in question.	Released in full.

I have decided not to charge for this request.

If you wish to discuss this response to your request, please contact Joseph Roberts, Community Ranger, Murihiku by email jroberts@doc.govt.nz.

Nāku noa, nā

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'A Fleming'.

Aaron Fleming
Director Operations Southern South Island
Department of Conservation
Te Papa Atawhai