



1 August 2023



Tēnā koe 

Thank you for your request to the Department of Conservation, received on 29 June 2023, in which you asked for:

- 1. All correspondence between DOC and agencies relating to the closure*
- 2. All seismic reports conducted on the chateau, and subsequent emails relating to the closure*
- 3. Emails from DOC and the Conservation Minister relating to seismic testing and the closure of the Chateau*
- 4. Emails and correspondence between DOC and the business regarding closure and seismic testing*
- 5. All correspondence from the community about the closure, and safety concerns*
- 6. And any correspondence from seismic assessors regarding the structural integrity of the building*

We have considered your request under the Official Information Act 1982.

Your questions and our responses are listed below:

1. All correspondence between DOC and agencies relating to the closure.

We have identified two documents within the scope of your request which are detailed in the table below. I have decided to release the relevant parts of the documents listed below, subject to information being withheld under section 9(2)(a) – to protect the privacy of natural persons, including deceased people.



Item	Date	Documentation	Decision
1	5 April	Background and FAQs on the Chateau for the Minister for Tourism.	Released in part
2	30 March	Email to LINZ regarding health and safety	Released in part

2. All seismic reports conducted on the chateau, and subsequent emails relating to the closure

This part of your request is refused under section 18(g) of the Official Information Act, as the information was not held at the time your request was made. We plan to release the document in future, or if you wish you have the right to submit a new Official Information Act request.

3. Emails from DOC and the Conservation Minister relating to seismic testing and the closure of the Chateau

This part of your request is refused in full under section 18(g) of the Official Information Act as the information is not held by the Department.

4. Emails and correspondence between DOC and the business regarding closure and seismic testing

Communication with Kah NZ, the former leaseholder of the Chateau, prior to 13 March 2023 can be found on the Departments website as part of a previous OIA request:
<https://www.doc.govt.nz/news/oia-responses/2023/>

We have identified two further communications within the scope of your request which are detailed in the table below. I have decided to release the relevant parts of the documents listed below, subject to information being withheld under section 9(2)(a) – to protect the privacy of natural persons, including deceased people.

Item	Date	Documentation	Decision
1	4 April 2023	Letter to Kah NZ Ltd	Released in part
2	19 June 2023	Letter to Kah NZ Ltd	Released in part

5. All correspondence from the community about the closure, and safety concerns

This part of your request is refused in full under section 18(g) of the Official Information Act as the information is not held by the Department.

6. And any correspondence from seismic assessors regarding the structural integrity of the building



This part of your request is refused in full under section 18(g) of the Official Information Act as the information is not held by the Department.

You are entitled to seek an investigation and review of my decision by writing to an Ombudsman as provided by section 28(3) of the Official Information Act.

Please note that this letter (with your personal details removed) may be published on the Department's website.



Nāku noa, nā



Karl Beckert
Director, Operations Support
Department of Conservation
Te Papa Atawhai