



THE HON TANYA PLIBERSEK MP
MINISTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT AND WATER

Ref: FOI MO LEX-78180

Ash Roth
Via Right to Know:
foi+request-12041-d7e28978@righttoknow.org.au

Dear Ash

Decision on your Freedom of Information request

I refer to your request, dated and received by the Office of the Minister for the Environment and Water (**Minister's Office**) via the Right to Know website on 10 September 2024, for access under the *Freedom of Information Act 1982* (Cth) (**FOI Act**) to the following documents:

All written communication between the Minister / her staff and the Environmental Defenders Office / people acting on their behalf.

Please limit to the period between 1 December 2023 and 31 May 2024.

My decision

The Ministers Office holds 10 documents with a number of attachments to those documents (totalling 254 pages) that relate to your request.

I have decided to grant **full** access to these documents with material not relevant to the request removed pursuant to section 22 of the FOI Act.

On 29 September 2024, in response to the Ministers Office notification of third-party consultation, you stated that personal details of individuals involved in any communications was not in scope of your request and could be excluded/redacted.

As such personal identifying information of Ministerial or Departmental staff (below the SES level) and external individuals has been removed under section 22 of the FOI Act as not in scope of your request.

How we will send your documents to you

The documents are attached.

You can ask for a review of my decision

You may apply to the Office of the Australian Information Commissioner (**OAIC**) to review my decision. An application for review by the Information Commissioner must be made in writing within **60 days** after the day you are notified of this decision. You can also make a complaint to the Information Commissioner if you have concerns about how your request has been handled.

You can find information about requesting a review, making a complaint, and other information about FOI on the OAIC website www.oaic.gov.au or phone the OAIC on 1300 363 992.

Further assistance

If you have any questions, please email foi@dcceew.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D McElrea', is positioned above the typed name.

David McElrea
Deputy Chief of Staff
Office of the Hon Tanya Plibersek MP
Minister for the Environment and Water
6 November 2024



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THE HON TANYA PLIBERSEK MP
MINISTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT AND WATER

Attachment A

**LIST OF DOCUMENTS FOR RELEASE
LEX-78180**

Doc No.	Date	Description	Decision	Exemption	Comments
1	6 March 2024	Email -Re Nature Positive Reforms	Release in full	NA	Personal information and staff names below the SES or equivalent redacted under section 22 (irrelevant to your request)
2	7 December 2023	Email with letter from EDO to Minister – Urgent Action funded by Commonwealth likely to have a significant impact on the endangered koala – Appin Road Upgrade	Release in full	NA	Personal information and staff names below the SES or equivalent redacted under section 22 (irrelevant to your request)
3	21 December 2023	Email from EDO to Minister Plibersek – Referral request under the EPBC Act – Commercial Groundwater Extraction at Springbrook S6191	Release in full	NA	Personal information and staff names below the SES or equivalent redacted under section 22 (irrelevant to your request)
3A	21 December 2023 -	Attachment to document 3 – Letter from EDO to Minister Plibersek	Release in full	NA	Personal information and staff names below the SES or equivalent redacted under section 22 (irrelevant to your request)
3B	10 November 2023	Attachment to document 3 – Judgement from the Planning and Environment Court Brisbane	Release in full	NA	Personal information and staff names below the SES or equivalent redacted under section 22 (irrelevant to your request)
3C	3 November 2023	Attachment to document 3 – EPBC Act Protected Matters Report	Release in full	NA	Personal information and staff names below the SES or equivalent redacted

Doc No.	Date	Description	Decision	Exemption	Comments
					under section 22 (irrelevant to your request)
4	29 February 2024	Email from EDO to Minister Plibersek – URGENT – Cth funded infrastructure likely to have a significant impact of the Koala	Release in full	NA	Personal information and staff names below the SES or equivalent redacted under section 22 (irrelevant to your request)
4A	29 February 2024	Attachment to document 4 – Letter from EDO to Minister Plibersek.	Release in full	NA	Personal information and staff names below the SES or equivalent redacted under section 22 (irrelevant to your request)
4B	20 December 2023	Attachment to document 4 – Letter and report to EDO -Proposed Appin Road upgrade	Release in full	NA	Personal information and staff names below the SES or equivalent redacted under section 22 (irrelevant to your request)
4C	21 December 2023	Attachment to document 4 – Letter from EDO to NSW Minister for Roads	Release in full	NA	Personal information and staff names below the SES or equivalent redacted under section 22 (irrelevant to your request)
4D	29 November 2023	Attachment to document 4 – Letter from EDO to Corrs Chamber Westgarth	Release in full	NA	Personal information and staff names below the SES or equivalent redacted under section 22 (irrelevant to your request)
5	8 March 2024	Email from EDO to Minister Plibersek - Request concerning compliance for EPBC 2023/09485	Release in full	NA	Personal information and staff names below the SES or equivalent redacted under section 22 (irrelevant to your request)

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Doc No.	Date	Description	Decision	Exemption	Comments
5A	8 March 2024	Attachment to document 5 – Letter from EDO to Minister Plibersek	Release in full	NA	Personal information and staff names below the SES or equivalent redacted under section 22 (irrelevant to your request)
5B	Undated	Attachment to document 5 – Field Inspection of Proposed Northern Silica Mining Project, Cape Flattery	Release in full	NA	Personal information and staff names below the SES or equivalent redacted under section 22 (irrelevant to your request)
5C	Undated	Attachment to document 5 – Impact of Proposed Northern Silica Mining Project on the Conservation Values of the Cape Flattery Area	Release in full	NA	Personal information and staff names below the SES or equivalent redacted under section 22 (irrelevant to your request)
6	8 March 2024	Email from EDO to Minister Plibersek Office – Nature Positive Reforms – Feedback from EDO	Release in full	NA	Personal information and staff names below the SES or equivalent redacted under section 22 (irrelevant to your request)
6A	8 March 2024	Attachment to document 6 – Briefing note – Key concerns with progress on nature positive reforms	Release in full	NA	Personal information and staff names below the SES or equivalent redacted under section 22 (irrelevant to your request)
7	5 March 2024	Email from EDO to Minister Plibersek Office Nature Positive Reforms meeting request	Release in full	NA	Personal information and staff names below the SES or equivalent redacted under section 22 (irrelevant to your request)
8	2 February 2024	Email from Ministers office to EDO – Correspondance	Release in full	NA	Personal information and staff names below the SES or equivalent redacted

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Doc No.	Date	Description	Decision	Exemption	Comments
					under section 22 (irrelevant to your request)
8A	2 February 2024	Attachment to document 8 – Letter from Minister Plibersek to EDO	Release in full	NA	Personal information and staff names below the SES or equivalent redacted under section 22 (irrelevant to your request)
9	8 February 2024	Email from EDO to Minister Plibersek's Office – Re Correspondence	Release in full	NA	Personal information and staff names below the SES or equivalent redacted under section 22 (irrelevant to your request)
9A	7 February 2024	Attachment to document 9 – Letter from EDO to Minister Plibersek – Re Munkara v Santos NA Barossa Pty Ltd	Release in full	NA	Personal information and staff names below the SES or equivalent redacted under section 22 (irrelevant to your request)
10	13 March 2024	Email from EDO to Minister Plibersek - EDO Review	Release in full	NA	Personal information and staff names below the SES or equivalent redacted under section 22 (irrelevant to your request)
10A	13 March 2024	Attachment to document 10 – Letter from Edo to Minister Plibersek – EDO process Review	Release in full	NA	Personal information and staff names below the SES or equivalent redacted under section 22 (irrelevant to your request)

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