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New Zealand Defence Force
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New Zealand

OIA-2026-5763

 May 2026


LabourResearch@parliament.govt.nz

Dear 

I refer to your email of 10 April 2026, requesting under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA) the following information:

1. *Any NZDF or Ministry of Defence assessments from June 2025 to February 2026 of the strategic energy security implications for New Zealand of Middle East conflict escalation, including assessments of Strait of Hormuz closure risk.*

Following consultation with the Ministry of Defence, this part of your request is refused in accordance with section 18(e) of the OIA as the requested information does not exist.

2. *All documents relating to the New Zealand Defence Force's fuel contingency planning, including: (a) current NZDF fuel stockholding levels and reserve targets by fuel type; (b) NZDF's designated priority band and entitlements under the Fuel Response Plan 2026; (c) any plans, exercises, or assessments completed since 1 January 2024 relating to NZDF operational continuity under a sustained liquid fuel supply disruption.*

The New Zealand Defence Force (NZDF) carries out contingency planning and preparedness activities for a broad range of eventualities, including fuel and shipping disruption. As a critical element to NZDF capability, information related to current NZDF fuel levels, planning, and assessments are withheld in full in accordance with section 6(a) of the OIA. The priority band for defence is publicly available on the Beehive website¹.

In accordance with section 28(3) of the OIA, you may ask an Ombudsman to review this response to your request. Information regarding the process is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

Please note that responses to official information requests are proactively released where possible. This response to your request will be published shortly on the NZDF website with your personal information removed.

Yours sincerely

GA Motley
Brigadier
Chief of Staff HQNZDF

¹ <https://www.beehive.govt.nz/sites/default/files/2026-03/Fuel%20Response%20Plan%20factsheets.pdf>