



Office of Hon Marian Hobbs
MP for Wellington Central

Minister for the Environment
 Minister for Disarmament and Arms Control
 Minister Responsible for Archives New Zealand
 Minister Responsible for the National Library
 Minister with Responsibility for Urban Affairs
 Associate Minister for Biosecurity
 Associate Minister of Education
 Associate Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade

RECEIVED
 25 JAN 2005

Sender:
 SANDRA GOUDIE, MP
 Parliament Buildings
 WELLINGTON

From Lloyd
 Hanson via

fax to
 Graham
 Sperry

25 JAN 2005

Sandra Goudie
 MP for Coromandel
 Parliament Buildings
 WELLINGTON

Lloyd Hanson

Dear Sandra

Thank you for your Official Information Act request of 6 December 2004, seeking a copy of all correspondence (including email), reports, or any document received by my office from 2001 to the present date relating to reviews of the Environmental Legal Assistance Fund, and any reports or documents on any changes to reporting parameters on this Fund

To date there have been two reports on the Environmental Legal Assistance Fund. Please find enclosed a copy of the following:

1. Environmental Legal Assistance Fund – Monitoring Report, June 2002
 Resource Management Group, Ministry for the Environment.
2. Report on Review of Applications for Funding to the Environmental Legal Assistance Panel, August 2004. Prepared by Deloitte for the Ministry for the Environment

The Ministry for the Environment is constantly seeking to improve the administration of the contestable funds it is responsible for. The Deputy Chief Executive of the Ministry for the Environment is currently leading a panel to consider the findings of a review by Deloitte and, as necessary and appropriate, revise Environmental Legal Assistance Fund policy and procedures.

Yours sincerely

Marian L. Hobbs

Hon Marian L Hobbs
MINISTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

DRAFT

List of Appendices

Appendix 1: Accepted applications and amount of funding

Appendix 2: Calculation on the number of applications received in comparison to the number of cases before the Environment Court.

Appendix 3: Requests for Reviews of Decisions

Appendix 4: Funding provided to Maori

Appendix 5: Report of the Advisory Panel

Appendix 6: Deed of Funding template

Appendix 7: Administration Costs

Appendix 8: Map - geographic spread of applications

Appendix 9: Graph - applications by resource issue

Appendix 10: Graph - applications by type of legal action

Appendix 1: Accepted applications and amount of funding

	APPL NO.	ORGANISATION NAME	AMOUNT IN DEED
1	2	Kapiti Environmental Action Inc	\$15,000
2	6	Kennington Environment Group Inc	\$20,000
3	8 & 10	Johnsonville Residents Association and Progressive Federation of Wellington Progressive Associations.	\$20,000
4	9	Opito Bay Residents Association Inc	\$10,000
5	12 & 13	Waitakere Ranges Protection Society Inc	\$40,000
6	14	Opoutara Ratepayers & Residents Assn	\$17,000
7	15	Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society of New Zealand Inc	\$20,000
8	16	Okaito Te Wahapu & Districts Ratepayers & Residents	\$10,000
9	17	Shirley Residents Association	\$9,646
10	18	Te Kupenga O Ngati Hake Inc	\$15,000
11	19	CORA	\$12,000
12	20	Glen Murray Protection Society Inc	\$20,000
13	21 & 5	Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society of NZ and Save the Bay Ltd	\$20,000
14	22	Upper Otuna Environmental Society Inc	\$20,000
15	26	Yaldhurst Rural Residents Assn (Inc)	\$20,000
16	27	Northwest Community Action Group	\$20,000
17	28	Boxers Kaitiaki Society Inc	\$5,000
18	30	Queenspark Resident Association Inc	\$5,625
19	31	Cam River Consent Group Inc	\$20,000
20	33	St Arnaud Community Association Inc	\$3,000
21	34	Paremata Residents Association Inc	\$9,000
22	37	Ngarewa Wahi Tapu Komiti	\$15,000
23	38	Friends and Community of Ngawha Inc	\$20,000
24	39	Careys Bay Association Inc	\$20,000
25	40	Kakanui Ratepayers & Improvement Society	\$19,500
26	41	Russell Ratepayers & Citizens Assn	\$20,000
27	42	Friends of Nelson Haven & Tasman Bay	\$20,000
28	44	Taylor's Mistake Association Inc	\$20,000
29	45	Englefield Residents Association	\$1,577

30	46	Kororaraka Marae Society Inc	\$20,000
31	48	Doves Bay Society Inc	\$20,000
32	51	Christchurch Civic Trust Inc & Te Whare Roimata Trust	\$17,000
33	57	Taemaro Marae Committee & Trustees	\$3,000
34	58	Tairua Environment Society Inc	\$20,000
35	59	Upper Clutha Environmental Society Inc	\$10,875
36	60	Ducks Unlimited New Zealand Inc	\$20,000
37	61	Piha Ratepayers' & Residents Association	\$20,000
38	63	The Thorndon Society Inc	\$10,000
39	66	Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society of New Zealand Inc	\$20,000
40	69	Summit Road Society Inc	\$14,000
41	70	Residents & Friends of Kinloch Assoc Inc	\$17,468
42	73	Waterfront Watch Inc	\$20,000
43	75	Marahau Sandy Bay Residents Assoc Inc	\$10,000
44	76	Auckland Yacht & Boating Assoc Inc	\$7,000
45	77	Waitakere Ranges Protection Society Inc	\$20,000
46	78	Wakatipu Environmental Society	\$20,000
47	80	Takamore Trusts	\$20,000
48	81	Abel Tasman National Park Trust Society Inc	\$10,000
49	82	Ohope Beach Development Society Inc	\$20,000
50	84	Montgomery Spur Heritage Trust Inc	\$6,000
51	87	Friends of Nelson Haven & Tasman Bay (with Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society of New Zealand Inc)	\$5,610
52	89	Kapiti Environmental Action Inc	\$10,000
53	90	Downs Road and South Eyre Road Action Society Inc	\$6,160
54	91	Three Kings United Group Inc	\$1,850
55	93	Greenbelt Conservation Society Inc	\$20,000
56	94	Auckland Volcanic Cones Society Inc	\$20,000
57	95	St Arnaud Community Association Inc	\$17,000
58	96	Friends of the Earth NZ Ltd	\$20,000
59	97	Ohiwa Harbour Margins Society Inc	\$5,000
60	98	Goldmine Action Group Inc	\$20,000
61	100	Manu Waiata Restoration & Protection Society	\$20,000
62	102	NZ Recreational Canoeing Assoc Inc	\$4,000
		TOTAL	\$972,310

Appendix 2: Calculation

Calculation on the number of applications received in comparison to the number of cases before the Environment Court.³⁶

Total number of Applications received by us that relate to appeals on resource consents or designations.	51
Number of appeals lodged with the Environment Court over 12 months	Approximately 660 ³⁷
Percentage of application received of court cases	Approximately 8%

The question is, does this 8% represent all the cases before the Environment Court where an environmental community or iwi group believed that the legal case it was arguing was one of environmental public interest. This would assume that there was full knowledge of the Fund and an application was received from every eligible party.

We know, however, that some groups will not apply if they are likely to settle out of court for low cost. Some may also choose not to apply for other reasons.

It would be useful to know how many groups were involved in court action that did not apply to us for money. We are looking at how this data could be collected.

³⁶ This calculation does not consider references on regional and district plans – neither those currently before the court or applications for funding.

³⁷ 645 in the year up to May 2001 & 679 01/02, Department of Courts