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20 December 2022

s 9(2)(a)

By email: s 9(2)(a)

Ref: H2022017622

Tēnā koe s 9(2)(a)

Response to your request for official information

Thank you for your request under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) to Manatū Hauora (the Ministry of Health) on 27 November 2022 for information regarding drinking water quality in New Zealand. Each part of your request is responded to below:

Please provide copies of

(I) any reports that detail the 'incidence of water-borne gastro intestinal diseases' in New Zealand, over the last 10 years.

Manatū Hauora has not commissioned any reports on the incidence of water-borne gastrointestinal disease in New Zealand in the last 10 years, however, factsheets providing an annual analysis of gastrointestinal disease where drinking water has been identified as a risk factor are produced by Environmental Health Intelligence New Zealand and are publicly available at www.ehinz.ac.nz/indicators/water/

(II) Any reports on drinking water quality in New Zealand, in the last 5 years.

Regulation of drinking water quality and safety was previously the responsibility of Manatū Hauora. Manatū Hauora produced annual reports on drinking water quality that are publicly available in this link here: www.health.govt.nz/our-work/environmental-health/drinking-water/drinking-water-publications. Please note that in November 2021, responsibility for drinking water regulation transferred from Manatū Hauora to Taumata Arowai (www.taumataarowai.govt.nz) as the new water services regulator.

(III) Any reports that discuss how good or bad the drinking water quality is in New Zealand.

Please refer to the link above for reports regarding drinking water quality in New Zealand.

I trust this information fulfils your request. Under section 28(3) of the Act, you have the right to ask the Ombudsman to review any decisions made under this request. The Ombudsman may be contacted by email at: info@ombudsman.parliament.nz or by calling 0800 802 602.

Please note that this response, with your personal details removed, may be published on the Manatū Hauora website at: www.health.govt.nz/about-ministry/information-releases/responses-official-information-act-requests.

Nāku noa, nā

Dr Andrew Old

Deputy Director-General

Public Health Agency | Te Pou Hauora Tūmatanui