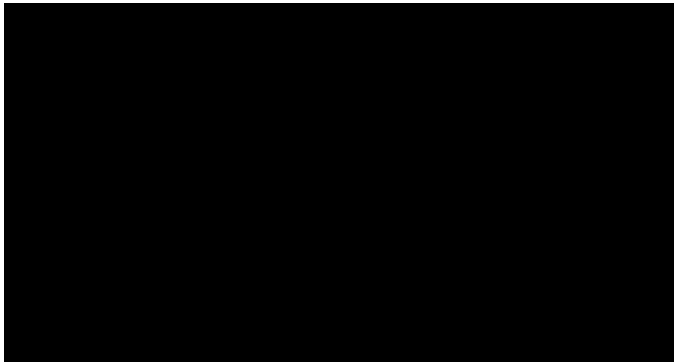


1 November 2021



Official Information Act #21.058

1. We refer to your Official Information Act 1982 (**OIA**) request received on 1 October 2021 for copies of any notes or audio or video recordings of Northelia's presentation to the Commerce Commission (**Commission**) in relation to our market study into the retail grocery sector.¹

Our response

2. We have decided to decline your request for the following reasons:
 - 2.1 to prevent prejudice to the supply of similar information, or information from the same source, where it is in the public interest that such information should continue to be supplied to the Commission, under section 9(2)(ba)(i) of the OIA; and
 - 2.2 to prevent an unreasonable prejudice to the commercial position of the party who supplied or who is the subject of the information, under section 9(2)(b)(ii) of the OIA.
3. The Commission met with Tex Edwards, on behalf of Northelia, on 23 September 2021. Present from the Commission were Anna Rawlings - Chair, John Small - Commissioner, Antonia Horrocks - General Manager of Competition, Market Studies Manager, Chief Economist Competition, Principal Economist, Assistant Analyst and Senior Legal Counsel. The information discussed in the meeting is confidential,

¹ <https://comcom.govt.nz/about-us/our-role/competition-studies/market-study-into-retail-grocery-sector>

except to the extent that it has been publicly released in Northelia's submission on the market study.²

Further information

4. We consider that good reasons exist for withholding information and these are not outweighed by other considerations which would make it desirable, in the public interest, to make the information available (section 9(1) of the OIA).
5. If you are not satisfied with the Commission's response to your OIA request, section 28(3) of the OIA provides you with the right to ask an Ombudsman to investigate and review this response. However, we would welcome the opportunity to discuss any concerns with you first.
6. Please note the Commission will be publishing this response to your request in the OIA register on our website.³ Your personal details will be redacted from the published response.
7. Please do not hesitate to contact us at uia@comcom.govt.nz if you have any questions about this request.

Yours sincerely



Alexandra Murray
OIA and Information Coordinator

² https://comcom.govt.nz/data/assets/pdf_file/0035/265787/Northelia-Ver-1.4-Submission-on-Market-study-into-grocery-sector-draft-report-26-August-2021.pdf

³ <https://comcom.govt.nz/about-us/requesting-official-information/oia-register>