



Reference: AF29133319

FOI 297/16/17 STATEMENT OF REASONS UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT

1. I refer to the application by [REDACTED] under the *Freedom of Information Act 1982* (FOI Act), for access to:

1. Copies of all Material Safety Data Sheets, product instructions, guidelines, and labels issued by 3M in relation to 3M Light Water AFFF at Army Aviation Centre Oakey between 1 January 1994 and 1 July 2016.

2. Copies of all records in respect of communications and arrangements between Defence and 3M in connection with the development and supply to Defence of the 3M Training Foam referred to in the document titled "Corporate Services Infrastructure Centre RAAF Base Williamtown Fire Training Pits Preliminary Options Study" (dated June 2003) at page 45 between 1 January 1994 and 1 July 2016.

Excluding personal email addresses, signatures, PMKeys numbers and mobile telephone numbers, contained in documents that fall within the scope of this FOI request. In addition, excluding duplicates of documents.

FOI decision maker

2. I am the accredited officer pursuant to section 23 of the FOI Act to make a decision on this FOI request.

Documents identified

3. I identified 20 documents as matching the description of the request.

4. The decision in relation to each document is detailed in a schedule of documents.

5. I have added an FOI reference number and Item/Serial number to each of the documents, which corresponds with the schedule.

Decision

6. I have decided to:

- a. release 20 documents in full; and
- b. remove irrelevant material as referred to in the scope of the request in accordance with section 22(1)(b)(ii) of the FOI Act.

Material taken into account

7. In making my decision, I had regard to:

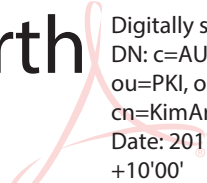
- a. the terms of the request;
- b. the content of the identified documents in issue;
- c. relevant provisions in the FOI Act; and
- d. the Guidelines published by the Office of the Australian Information Commissioner under section 93A of the FOI Act (the Guidelines).

Contextual Statement

9. While the documents released to the applicant are in the possession of Defence, I am unable to verify whether any of these products were actually used, or even located, at Army Aviation Centre Oakey. Product information and Material Safety Data Sheets may have been obtained by Defence outside the procurement and use of these products.

10. In regards to Item 2, the documents released to the applicant in relation to 3M training foam are in the possession of Defence. I am unable to verify whether these documents relate to communications and arrangements as referred to in the document titled "Corporate Services Infrastructure Centre RAAF Base Williamtown Fire Training Pits Preliminary Options Study" (dated June 2003) at page 45.

KimArthur
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Kim Arthur
Accredited Decision Maker
Estate and Infrastructure Group

21 August 2017