

# Hon Eugenie Sage

Minister of Conservation

Minister for Land Information

Associate Minister for the Environment

Minita mō Te Papa Atawhai

Minita mō Toitū Te Whenua

Minita Tuarua mō Te Taiao



04 OCT 2013

Michael Meehan  
Chief Executive  
West Coast Regional Council  
By email: mm@wcrc.govt.nz

Dear Michael

## Department of Conservation requirement for *Sodium Fluoroacetate (1080)*

Thank you for updating me on the work Pest Control Research Limited are doing to produce 1080 baits to support the Department of Conservation's predator control programme across New Zealand.

I am informed by the Department that a six-year contract is now in place with Pest Control Research Limited (PCR), and that the contract has the provision to be extended by another four years from its initial expiry date. I understand that commencing from September 2018, PCR will supply Pestex 1080 bait products to the Department of Conservation (DOC). I understand that the Pestex product contains 0.15% Sodium Fluoroacetate (1080), and that the bait will be used in DOC's predator control programme.

PCR's Pestex bait will be an important tool to help achieve DOC's predator control goals. I have committed DOC to delivering an expanded predator control programme over the next 4 years. As you are aware, New Zealand is facing a biodiversity crisis, with urgent action required to halt the decline of our native species. Results from ongoing research into pest control techniques show that the carefully controlled application of 1080 baits are hugely beneficial for our native wildlife. 1080 is ideally suited for use in New Zealand because, while introduced mammals are extremely vulnerable to the poison, monitoring shows that most native species are not at significant risk from 1080 operations. The government continues to invest in research to alternatives to 1080 as part of the vision for a predator-free New Zealand. However, it is likely that 1080 will continue to play an important role and it is currently our most effective tool for controlling pests.

Pest Control Research Ltd is endorsed by the Government of New Zealand to source, purchase, import and store Sodium Fluoroacetate (1080), subject to the usual approval requirements under New Zealand law, as regulated by the Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI).

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "E M Sage". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Hon. Eugenie Sage  
**Minister of Conservation**