

1 - FEB 2019



Hon David Parker
Attorney General
Parliament Building
WELLINGTON

Hon Dr Nick Smith
Member of Parliament for Nelson

Dear Minister

I write in respect to the Attorney General High Court case involving the Institute of Professional Engineers NZ Incorporated and Mr Alan Michael Raey that has this week been appealed. My interest is having been involved in the initial decision, following the Royal Commission of Inquiry report concluding significant defects in the structural design of the CTV building, for the Governments Chief Engineer to lodge the complaint and the subsequent decision as Building Minister to judicially review the decision to end the investigation on Mr Raey's resignation from the Institute. My respectful request is that the Government apply to the court for urgency in this appeal and do everything possible to bring this matter to a timely conclusion.

My concern is the time this matter is taking to resolve. The Christchurch Earthquake and collapse of the CTV building killing 115 people occurred nearly 8 years ago. The Royal Commission Report was timely with its thorough report provided in December 2012 that initiated the complaint. The delays since have been due to Dr Raey using every possible tool to delay or derail the complaint process. The CTV families are understandably frustrated. They welcomed the December High Court decision but are now concerned that this appeal will add further delay. There is also frustration in IPENZ and amongst the Engineering profession that this matter is taking so long to resolve. It is damaging the reputation of IPENZ, the profession and the wider public's confidence in our system to hold professionals to account.

My advocacy for the Government seeking urgency in this matter is because of the high public interest, the significant issues at stake where 115 died, the need for the engineering profession to learn as many lessons as possible from this tragedy and the needs of the CTV families for this matter to be resolved.

I welcome any discussion or help I can give in assisting the Government on making progress of this important issue.

Yours sincerely

Hon Dr Nick Smith
MP Nelson