



08 FEB 2019

Michael Barton
westernsaharacampaignnz@gmail.com

Dear Michael Barton

Thank you for your emails of 29 November 2018 and 9 January 2019.

On 30 November 2018, Hon Damien O'Connor and I met with senior representatives from the Fertiliser Association of New Zealand and New Zealand fertilizer companies importing phosphate from Western Sahara. Officials from the Ministry for Primary Industries and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade also attended.

It was reiterated to the fertiliser industry representatives that the Government has considered the wide-ranging issues involved in importing phosphate from Western Sahara, including the point of view of the industry, and has taken seriously the domestic and international policy considerations surrounding this topic. We again encouraged the industry to actively seek alternative sources of phosphate and continue to investigate technology which would make importation from a range of sources more viable.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'David Parker'.

Hon David Parker
Minister for Trade and Export Growth