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HPM.SPB

Waioatahi Ct Corres.  
Misc. 79

25 November 1965

The County Clerk,  
Opotiki County Council,  
P.O. Box 54,  
OPOTIKI.

Dear Sir,

HOKIANGA ISLAND


In reply to your letter of the 16th November, our Departmental instructions provide most definitely that we are not to supply lists of owners and copies of other Court records to the public (which includes Local Bodies) without payment of the prescribed fee, which is 5/- per sheet.

I have written to my Head Office asking whether a special dispensation can be given to Local Bodies where they are to be used for rating and associated applications. I will write to you again when I receive a reply from Head Office.

Most of the Local Authorities in our district have arranged for their Rates Clerks to visit this office by arrangement and make their own searches. We have made a room, a typewriter and other facilities available to them free of charge, and the same facilities are available to your office.

When your Rates Clerk has accumulated sufficient enquiries to warrant a trip, I suggest that it would be in your interest to send him over here to check your rates against the titles concerned to ensure that you have the up-to-date information.

Yours faithfully,

  
(J.H.W. Barber)  
Registrar and District Officer

ROTORUA

HEAD OFFICE


H.O. Circ.1964/25  
69/6 53/8

Waiotahi Ct.Corres.  
Misc.79

FEEES FOR SUPPLYING A LIST OF OWNERS

25.11.65

1. The Opotiki County Council has been in the past one of our most difficult Councils to deal with and they have been the most backward in using the avenues available to them through the Maori Land Court to collect their rates and to obtain proper land utilisation.
2. The Council has now employed a Rates Clerk to attack their rating problem, particularly on Maori Land. The Council has asked us to supply lists of owners of certain blocks, and has been somewhat upset because we have told them that we are prevented by our Departmental instructions from supplying any lists or copies of the records without payment of the appropriate fee. We have also told the Council that if they send their Rates Clerk to this office to make their own searches he will be given all the co-operation and assistance he requires.
3. Would you please consider whether a special dispensation could be made whereby lists of owners and so on could be supplied to Local Authorities free of charge when required for rating and allied matters.

  
(J.H.W. Barber)  
District Officer

~~Court Misc~~ 79  
Wabtahi Corresp.

8 December 1965

The County Clerk,  
Opotiki County Council,  
P. O. Box 54,  
OPOTIKI.

Dear Sir,

HOKIANGA ISLAND.

Further to my letter of the 25th of November. I have now received a ruling from my Head Office to the effect that no lists are to be supplied free of charge. Any dispensation from the requirement that we charge fees for copies of the records would have to be agreed to by Treasury, and it would be difficult to argue for a dispensation in favour of local authorities.

I again suggest that it would be in your Council's interest to send your Rates clerk to this office to make any searches which may be necessary to bring your records up to date.

He will be given all the assistance and facilities which he requires.

Yours faithfully,

*file - Wabtahi*  
*costs*

(J.H.W. Barber)  
Registrar.