

Submission of information by third parties

New Zealand

Section 90 of the Patents Act 2013 provides that:

At any time after a complete specification becomes open to public inspection but before the date of the publication of the accepted complete specification, any person may notify the Commissioner that the claimed invention is not novel and/or does not involve an inventive step. The notice must state the reasons for the person's assertion.

The Commissioner must inform the applicant in writing of any matter of which the Commissioner is notified and send the applicant a copy of any document accompanying the notice.

The Commissioner must otherwise consider and deal with a notice as part of the examination process under section 65 of the Act.

The notice and any documents accompanying it are open to public inspection.