



Ministry for the Environment
Manatū Mō Te Taiao

Ministry for Primary Industries
Manatū Ahu Matua



To: Hon Todd McClay, Minister of Agriculture
Hon Simon Watts, Minister of Climate Change
From: Charlotte Denny, Director Natural Resources Policy, Ministry for Primary Industries
Hemi Smiler, General Manager Climate Change Mitigation, Ministry for the Environment

For Ministerial Consultation – Methane Science and Targets Review: Appointment

Date	31 May 2024	Reference	MPI: B24-0365
			MfE: BRF-4761

Decision required	Date decision required by
YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> / NO <input type="checkbox"/>	4 June 2024

Purpose

- This briefing seeks your feedback on a draft Cabinet paper to appoint the independent panel (the panel) who will conduct the Methane Science and Target Review (the Review) by 4 June, prior to Ministerial consultation.

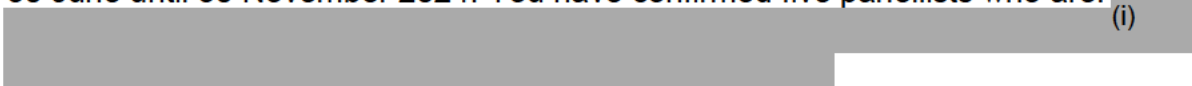
Context

- The draft appointment paper includes the final shortlist of panellists to be considered at the Cabinet Appointments and Honours committee on 18 June, and Cabinet on 24 June. This is attached at **Appendix One**.
- We will provide you with a briefing to finalise the Terms of Reference (ToR) in the coming weeks after we have engaged with potential panellists.

Context

Panellists

- The following five appointees will be put forward to the Review panel for the period 30 June until 30 November 2024. You have confirmed five panellists who are: 9(2)(g)(i)



4. We are currently working through the additional names provided ^{9(2)(g)(i)} [REDACTED]. Due to the tight timeframes involved, contacting, and undertaking thorough checks on additional candidates will not be complete before Ministerial consultation next week. There is a risk this may not be complete before the lodgement of the Cabinet Appointments and Honours Committee (APH) paper on 14 June.
5. Once you have confirmed your final panel appointees, officials will finalise the candidates' interest, background, and conflict of interest checks. We are also seeking confirmation of interest in principle subject to confirmation of fee rates. This will be completed prior to Ministerial consultation on this paper.

Terms of Reference and the final baseline year

6. On 29 May, Cabinet Economic Policy Committee (ECO) agreed to the draft ToR and authorised you both and your Associate Ministers of Agriculture and Associate Minister of Climate Change to finalise it by 24 June [ECO-24-MIN-0096 refers]. You met with officials on 30 May to discuss your approval of the final panel shortlist and the inclusion of a baseline in the final ToR.
7. We will provide you with the final draft ToR in the coming weeks for you and your Associate Ministers of Agriculture and Associate Minister of Climate Change to approve.

Next steps

8. Table One sets out the proposed steps to support commencing the Review by 30 June 2024:

Table One: proposed steps to commence the Review by 30 June

Step 1: ECO and Cabinet approval to initiate the Review	
29 May	ECO consideration
4 June	Cabinet approval
Step 2: APH and Cabinet approval to appoint panel members	
4 June	Provide feedback to officials on the APH Cabinet paper
6 to 12 June (5 days)	Ministerial consultation on APH paper
13 June	Ministers approve APH paper for lodgement
14 June	Lodge APH paper (late lodgement)
18 June	APH consideration
24 June	Cabinet approval

Recommendations

9. It is recommended that you:

- a) **Agree** to provide feedback to officials on any changes to the attached draft Cabinet paper by 4 June, prior to Ministerial consultation from 6 June to 12 June 2024;

YES / NO

- b) **Note** to meet 30 June 2024 to commence the Review, we propose the following timeframes:

- i. 18 June – Cabinet Appointment and Honours Committee consideration; and

NOTED

- ii. 24 June – Cabinet's appointment (24 June) of the panel members.

NOTED

9(2)(a)



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Natural Resources Policy
Ministry for Primary Industries

Hon Todd McClay
Minister of Agriculture

/ / 2024

Hemi Smiler
General Manager
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Ministry for Environment

Hon Simon Watts
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/ / 2024

Appendix One: Sub24-0067 – Draft Cabinet paper – Methane Science and Target Review Panel: Appointment

This appendix is being refused under section 18(d) of the Act as the final cabinet paper will soon be made publicly available.