

s 9(2)(a)

Dear s 9(2)(a)

Thank you for your email of 26 July 2018, requesting the following information under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

“Any advice or briefing you gave to ministers on the 2015 OECD report The economic consequences of climate change;

Any communication with OECD about that report; and

Any analysis of the estimate of the cost of global warming as a percentage to Australia and New Zealand by 2060 contained in the report.”

The scope of this request has been interpreted as capturing all communications between the Ministry for the Environment (the Ministry) and the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) on (the OECD report) ‘The Economic Consequences of Climate Change report’; any advice or briefings the Ministry provided to Ministers on the OECD report; and any Ministry analysis of the estimate of the cost of global warming as a percentage to Australia and New Zealand by 2060 contained in the report between 01 January 2015 and the date of your request, 26 July 2018.

The attached table lists the 11 documents falling within the scope of your request and notes any provisions of the Act that have been applied.

The OECD’s modelling on the cost of climate change action in regards to New Zealand provided a useful assessment at the time of its publication in 2015. However, the figures in the OECD report require further analysis as the economies of Australia and New Zealand were combined in the modelling. Some of the modelled losses include extreme weather events such as heat waves and tropical cyclones and impacts in the energy sector (especially oil, gas and coal), which are likely to be more significant for Australia than New Zealand.

Modelling in 2015 on the impact of meeting the 2030 greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reduction target was the best feasible within the time prior to the Paris Agreement. The Government is currently analysing the costed options for lowering emissions and transitioning the economy to better understand the 2050 GHG emissions reduction targets proposed in the Zero Carbon Bill discussion document.

The Government is committed to action on climate change and plans to set a new 2050 greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reduction target. Our economy is dynamic and constantly adjusting to change; New Zealand will look very different from today by 2050. The cost of climate change inaction out to the second half of this century is potentially significant and requires further analysis. The Government has commissioned domestic and international firms to provide impact analysis modelling to provide a greater understanding and more

robust analysis of the costs and benefits of transitioning to a low emissions future. This has been made available on the Ministry for the Environment's website as part of the recent 'Our climate, your say' consultation.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

Sincerely



 **Roger Lincoln**
Acting Director Climate Change

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the Official Information Act 1982

List of documents

Document no.	Document date	Content	Decisions	OIA sections applied
1	27/05/2015	Email: Circle Report Feedback	Release in full	N/A
2	28/09/2015	Email: RE: OECD_EPOC First paper issued	Release in part	Certain sections out of scope
3	30/09/2015	Email: Technical workshop (OECD) (2)	Release in part	S9(2)(a)
4	06/02/2016	Email: OECD Green Growth	Release in full	N/A
5	19/02/2016	Email: OECD Green Growth (2)	Release in full	N/A
6	23/09/2016	Email: RE: Round table ENV work with the NZ Environment Minister	Release in part	Certain sections out of scope
7	16/11/2017	Email: Text for Cover briefing and to drop into Cab paper	Release in part	Certain sections out of scope
8	17/11/2017	Document: Updated draft Cabinet paper: The 100-Day Plan for Climate Change	Release in part	Certain sections out of scope
9	21/11/2017	Email: Comments on most recent (?) version of Climate change paper	Release in part	Certain sections out of scope
10	31/05/18	Email: RE paras missing from DD – the upside of avoiding damage by climate change	Release in full	N/A
11	10/07/2018	Document: Zero Carbon Bill Economic Analysis Report	Withheld	S18(d)

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