



19-D-00724
29 May 2019

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Dear s

Thank you for your email of 1 May 2019 requesting the following under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

1) What analysis has been carried out by Treasury or other relevant government agencies in regard to the level of GDP growth that would be possible if NZ was to reduce emissions in accordance with 1.5C maximum warming? Similarly, what analysis has been carried out for 2C maximum warming? Please describe and/or provide a copy of this analysis.

2) Below is a link to a recent paper titled "Is Green Growth Possible?"

[<https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/pdf/10.1080/13563467.2019.1598964?needAccess=true>]

For this question, "green growth" is defined as a situation where we achieve "permanent absolute decoupling of carbon emissions from GDP, and at a rate rapid enough to prevent us from exceeding the carbon budget for 1.5°C or 2°C."

Please refer to the conclusion on page 15 of the above paper. Please advise what rate of "green growth" (if any) would likely be possible in New Zealand for both 1.5C and 2C maximum warming scenarios. In particular, I am interested in the rate of "green growth" possible between now and 2030, and between now and 2050.

Please note that in referring to total emissions levels, it is important to consider the 'embodied emissions' from the goods consumed domestically which were manufactured overseas. Purely focusing on 'operative emissions' is unlikely to give a true picture of a country's emissions profile, particularly as a country moves to a more service based economy and manufacturing is offshored.

On 8 May 2019, the Government announced the introduction of the Climate Change Response (Zero Carbon) Amendment Bill (ZCAB) into Parliament. The Bill is now being considered by the Environment Select Committee, which has invited submissions from the public. If you have any feedback on the policy proposals, we encourage you to share these with the Select Committee.

Question 1

The Ministry for the Environment has identified ten documents in scope of your request's question 1. These documents were prepared to support the ZCAB and are already publically available and so no information within these documents has been withheld under the Act. The documents are:

- The nine economic analysis and modelling reports undertaken to support the proposed Climate Change Response (Zero Carbon) Amendment Bill (ZCAB), available at

<http://www.mfe.govt.nz/climate-change/climate-change-and-government/economic-modelling>,
and

- The regulatory impact statement, available at <http://www.mfe.govt.nz/node/25101>, which contains an explanation and summary of findings for the economic analysis undertaken.

Question 2

The Ministry did not explicitly consider the definition of 'green growth' as per the reference document you provided. Accordingly there are no documents within the scope of this request.

Please note that due to the public interest in our work the Ministry for the Environment publishes responses to requests for official information on our website on our [OIA responses page](#) shortly after the response has been sent.

If you have any queries about this, please feel free to contact our Executive Relations team.

Yours sincerely



Roger Lincoln
Director, Climate Directorate

Released under the provision of
the Official Information Act 1982