



13 February 2025

9(2)(a)

Tēnā koe 9(2)(a)

Thank you for your email of 26 December 2024 requesting the following under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

Hi, I note that the above panels report did not address the Wiingaarden and Happer 2020 paper. <https://arxiv.org/pdf/2006.03098>. In my submission to the panel I suggested that they should, due to the terms of reference requiring the panel to consider new science, and to avoid the 'whitewash' claims. I'd like to know why the panel omitted to address this paper that some felt created the momentum behind the call for a review.

Please provided any official information dealing with consideration if this paper, it's scientific merit or flaws, and decision not to address it in the report.

The Methane Review Ministerial Advisory Panel (the Panel) is independent from the Government. The Ministry contacted the Panel to request any information relating to their consideration of the 'Wiingaarden and Happer 2020 paper'.

The Panel confirmed that they do not hold any information in scope of your request. Therefore, I am refusing your request under section 18(e) of the Act as the document alleged to contain the information requested does not exist or, despite reasonable efforts to locate it, cannot be found.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Office of the Ombudsman of my decision relating to this request, in accordance with section 28(3) of the Act. The relevant details can be found on their website at: www.ombudsman.parliament.nz.

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 [OIA responses page](#) shortly after the response has been sent. If you have any queries about this, please feel free to contact our Ministerial Services team: ministerials@mfe.govt.nz.

Nāku noa, nā,

Cheryl Moir
Manager - Land Use and Removals
Ministry for the Environment | Manatū Mō Te Taiao