

Weekly Update – Hon David Parker, Minister for the Environment

For the week starting 2 July 2018

Environment weekly meeting 11.00 am – 11.45am, Monday 2 July

Attendees: Hon David Parker, Minister for the Environment

Vicky Robertson, Secretary for the Environment

Penny Nelson, Deputy Secretary, Environmental Performance, Innovation & Climate

Cheryl Barnes, Deputy Secretary, Water

Amanda Moran, Deputy Secretary, Resource Management

Claire Richardson, Deputy Secretary, Organisational Performance

James Walker, Deputy Secretary, Partnerships and Customers

Vicki Connor, Director, Communications and Engagement

	Agenda Item	Lead	Paper / verbal update	Mins
1.	Discuss Weekly Update	Vicky Robertson	Verbal update	10
2.	Freshwater work programme update	Cheryl Barnes	Verbal update	10
3.	Urban work programme update	Amanda Moran	Verbal update	10
4.	Compliance Oversight Unit	Amanda Moran	Verbal update	10
5.	Speeches and events: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Key themes to cover for EDS annual conference • Plans for Minister's attendance at the Regional Forum (Hawke's Bay 18 July) 	Vicki Connor	Verbal update	5

Upcoming meetings

Week 2 July – 9 July

2 July	11.00am	MfE officials weekly meeting
3 July	8.15am	Doug Leeder (LGNZ) on RMA and water issues
	3.30pm	Minister Parker and Sage regular meeting
	5.00pm	ENV Cabinet Committee
4 July	3.00pm	Minister Genter regarding electric vehicle programme
5 July	8.00am	Three Waters Ministers
	11.15am	MfE officials meeting (topic for discussion tbc)

Proposed meetings which are not yet confirmed

2 July	4.00pm	ENV pre-meeting with officials
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Upcoming Events

5 July	11.00am	Launch of Metlink electric bus
16 & 17 July	TBA	LGNZ (Minister Mahuta attending)
17 July	5.30pm	Launch of best practice guidelines on compliance, monitoring and enforcement
18 July	TBC	Hawke's Bay Regional Environmental Forum
1 August	9.00am	EDS Conference speech (Minister Twyford also speaking at this event)
21 September	9.00am	RMLA Conference speech

Minister travelling

5 July – 16 July

22 July – 25 July

1. Progress towards Government's strategic priorities

1.1. Urban

We have provided you with a revised Urban Development Authority (UDA) Resource Management Planning and Consenting Cabinet paper and accompanying advice, following your feedback. If you and Minister Twyford are comfortable with the paper the next step is ministerial consultation.

For the UDA Māori Interests and the Crown / Māori Relationship Cabinet paper, we understand that the next step is for Ministers Twyford and Davis to arrange a meeting with you and Ministers Little, Mahuta, Jones, and Sage to discuss ways to protect sensitive Māori land. We can brief you for that meeting when it is arranged.

Following our discussion on the Urban Planning pillar of the Urban Growth Agenda (UGA), we are now setting up a meeting for you and Minister Twyford to discuss the immediate next steps and timeline for implementing new national direction on Quality Intensification. A meeting of all UGA Ministers (Twyford, Mahuta, Jones, Associate Minister Genter, and yourself) to discuss wider progress across the UGA work programme is also scheduled for 7 August.

We understand Minister Twyford has also met with Treasury officials to discuss the recent UGA briefing on Infrastructure Funding and Financing options and indicated his preference for alternative funding models (option 3). He has requested further advice on practical steps for implementing an alternative financing model and we will work with Treasury to ensure this advice is integrated with other UGA work, including the progress we are making in the urban planning pillar.

1.2. Work Programme: Restoring our Freshwater

Following discussions with you, the Ministry is developing a detailed work programme to deliver the package of work you have identified as a priority over the next 18 months. This work programme will include identifying and targeting at risk catchments, and a national direction programme that includes changes to the NPS and other national direction to provide more immediate progress. We will provide you with a briefing outlining this work programme in mid-July.

Cabinet recently agreed to establish a multi-agency Water Taskforce, hosted by the Ministry for the Environment, and including representatives from the Ministry for the Environment, the Ministry of Primary Industries, Treasury, Te Puni Kōkiri, the Department of Internal Affairs, the Department of Conservation, the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment, and expertise from local government.

s9(2)(g)(i)

2. Updates for noting

2.1. Progress on Horizons Regional Council One Plan with Fish and Game and EDS

Following your meeting with Horizons, EDS and Fish & Game (F&G) on 21 June the Ministry is working to find a way to move parties forward on the One Plan. MfE will be

meeting Horizons on 28 June and intend to schedule a meeting with EDS and F&G shortly after. We understand Horizons have revised their approach to amending the One Plan and this may be agreeable to F&G and EDS. We will use our meeting to test Horizons proposal before presenting any options to F&G and EDS.

Horizons have provided previous caucusing statements and planning reports that suggest further legal and planning advice may not help to progress things. We will discuss this with F&G and EDS.

2.2. Progress on Update on Planning Standards consultation

There has been a high degree of interest in the consultation, with 860 people pre-registered to attend one of the 17 workshops arranged. We are in Auckland today, Hamilton and Whangarei tomorrow and Tauranga later in the week. Workshops have already been held in Nelson, Greymouth, Christchurch, New Plymouth, Napier, Palmerston North, and Wellington.

The nature and tone of our conversations has shifted markedly in the 12 months since our previous consultation roadshow. There is much greater acceptance now of the need for the planning standards. Instead, practitioners are focused on understanding the implications of the technical changes that need to be made to plans. Questions about how the zone framework and spatial planning tools work in practice, the proposed rule format requirements and definitions are most common.

The staged implementation approach appears to be appreciated by Councils we have spoken with to date. Few have felt the need to discuss this aspect of the proposals in depth. This is significant given the nature of concerns previously expressed about the default RMA timeframes for implementing the planning standards.

Tasman and Marlborough Councils have expressed concerns that the proposals don't provide enough flexibility for them to develop truly integrated unitary plans (ie, where the regional policy statement (RPS) provisions are weaved throughout the plan and not located at the front of the unitary plan to reinforce the hierarchy of the RPS). Their preferred approach is different from the approach recommended by the Auckland Independent Hearings Panel, which we adopted. We will continue to test this issue with other regional and unitary councils during the consultation period.

Next steps

We will provide a further update following the conclusion of the roadshow in mid-July and again in mid-August once the submission period closes.

2.3 Upcoming roadshow on the Coastal Hazards and Climate Change guidance

Minister Shaw launched the Ministry for the Environment's updated Coastal Hazards and Climate Change guidance for local government last December. The Ministry is now preparing a roadshow to support councils to implement the new guidance.

The roadshow will consist of workshops, meetings and presentations held in many regions around the country. The workshops will help support councils in effectively putting the process described in the guidance into practice. The Ministry will also give high level presentations to councillors and at public meetings.

The Ministry is partnering with the NIWA-led team who authored the guidance to prepare and run the workshops and other meetings. The New Zealand Coastal Society (an expert subgroup of Engineering NZ) is sponsoring an evening public meeting in each location.

The roadshow will take place during July, August and September 2018.

2.4. **Thames Coromandel and Hauraki District Mangroves Management Bill**

DIA and MfE officials updated the Governance and Administration Select Committee on 27 June about the feedback from Environment Waikato with respect to the proposed way forward on the Thames-Coromandel District Council and Hauraki District Council Mangrove Management Bill. Following this feedback, we are proposing that the scope and authorised activities under the Bill is narrowed, provides for ministerial oversight, involvement of all three councils and specifies the relationship to the RMA. This will mean that the Bill would be revised (as part of a Departmental Report process) to provide for a mangrove management plan that:

- provides for small scale removal of mangroves along the lines of that permitted under the Environment Bay of Plenty regional coastal plan
- ensures that clearance activities that are beyond this scope will continue to be managed under the RMA and will require a resource consent
- is limited in geographic areas, and areas outside this will continue to be managed under the RMA
- must not be inconsistent with the New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement
- will have a limited life and will expire with the Bill after a specified time (eg, 5 years) and/or be merged into the next review of the regional coastal plan (as the basis for permitted activity provisions).

The revised approach will be proposed to the district councils; officials will then report back to Ministers and the Select Committee. If the district councils are not supportive of the revised approach officials will recommend that the Bill be withdrawn. A joint briefing will be provided to Ministers in early July which will seek the Government's position on the revised approach.

2.5. s9(2)(f)(iv)



2.6. s6(c)





2.7. EDS conference 1 August

You are scheduled to give a keynote speech to the Environmental Defence Society conference on Wednesday 1 August. You have been asked to speak on the Government's Environmental Reform Agenda. This suggests you provide an overview of action across climate, water and waste to support the transition to a sustainable, zero-carbon, circular economy. s9(2)(f)(iv)

In addition, subject to all cabinet decisions being finalised, you may wish to announce decisions on the Essential Freshwater work programme, including how the Crown intends to engage with Maori. This suggestion is subject to you having had time and agreement in mid-late July to discuss the approach with the Iwi Leaders Group.

Given Minister Twyford is speaking on the second day of the EDS conference, your office may wish to align with his office around messaging about proposed changes to the Resource Management Act from an urban perspective.

2.8. Release of the Ministry's Performance Improvement Framework review

Earlier this year you received a draft copy of MfE's Performance Improvement Framework (PIF) review. There have been some delays in finalising the printed report, but it is completed now and SSC will be ready to release it in the next couple of weeks. You, along with your Environment Portfolio colleagues, will receive a briefing note early next week from Minister Hipkins outlining the key findings of the review for your information and acknowledgement. The report will then be made public via SSC's website. We will provide you with some talking points related to the PIF next week.

3. Briefing notes

2 July – 27 July

Title	Lead agency	What this briefing covers	Date due to your office
Release of report: Impacts of volumetric charging on hydro-generation of electricity	MfE	Briefing advising you of the planned release on 9 July of a report on the impacts of volumetric charging for water on the hydro-generation of electricity, including reactive talking points.	2 July
The appointment of judicial chairs to EEZ Boards of Inquiry	MfE	Advises you on the appointment of board of inquiry chairs under the EEZ Act and the suitability of judicial chairs for EEZ BOIs	2 July
Release of the Best Practice Guidelines for Compliance, Monitoring and Enforcement	MfE	Briefing providing you with a copy of the guidelines, a Ministerial foreword and talking points to support you at the launch of the guidelines on the 17 July.	3 July
2018/19 Delegations for Non-Departmental Appropriations	MfE	Requests your agreement to continue delegations to the Ministry for the Environment for non-departmental appropriations in 2018/19.	4 July
Meeting note to support discussion on landscape assessment	MfE	Meeting note to support discussion between Minister Parker and the NZ Institute of Landscape Architects on updated guidelines for landscape assessment	5 July
Urban Growth Agenda: Programme update and next steps	MfE	Provides you with information to support UGA Ministers at their meeting to discuss progress on the UGA.	13 July
Hawke's Bay Regional Forum	MfE	Provides you with information to support Ministers meetings with Hawke's Bay Iwi.	13 July

4. Cabinet material being prepared for you

2 July – 27 July

Paper name	Committee	What this paper covers	Our Suggested timeframes
A new approach to the Crown/Māori relationship for Freshwater	(ENV) Environment, Energy and Climate Change Committee Meeting	Proposes a fresh approach to the Crown/Māori relationship for freshwater, including a broader approach to engaging with Maori, including the establishment of a new entity – a Māori Freshwater Forum called 'Kahui Wai-Māori' – as a co-design body for the Crown and Maori. This paper also proposes the treatment of key parameters of the Crown's policy response to Māori rights and interests in freshwater as well as proposals for how the Crown might structure the conversation with the Kahui Wai-Māori over the next 12 months.	Due to Cabinet: TBC

Paper name	Committee	What this paper covers	Our Suggested timeframes
Environmental Protection Authority Board - Appointments	(APH) Cabinet Appointments and Honours Committee	This is the APH paper for proposing your intention to make five appointments to the EPA Board during the 2018 round.	Due to APH Committee: 4 July Due to Cabinet: 9 July
Approval to ratify the Kigali Amendment to the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer	(ENV) Cabinet Environment, Energy and Climate Committee	Seeks Cabinet's agreement to ratify the Kigali Amendment to the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer on 1 October 2019. To achieve this, the paper seeks agreement to undertake parliamentary treaty examination and draft proposed amendments to the Ozone Layer Protection Regulations required to implement the Amendment.	Due to lodge: TBC Due to ENV Committee: TBC Due to Cabinet: TBC
Resource Management Act Amendment Bill 2018	(ENV) Cabinet Environment, Energy and Climate Committee	Seeks agreement to a narrowly scoped RMA Amendment Bill to be progressed in 2018 as stage one of a two stage approach to RMA Reform.	Due to lodge: 26 July Due to ENV Committee: 31 July Due to Cabinet: 6 August
Urban Development Legislation: Resource Management Planning and Consenting	(DEV) Cabinet Economic Development Committee	This paper outlines the proposed planning and consenting powers that the Urban Development Authority will be enabled to use.	Due to lodge: 26 July Due to DEV Committee: 1 August Due to Cabinet: 6 August
Urban Development Legislation: Entity form	(DEV) Cabinet Economic Development Committee	This paper outlines how the new entity will operate, what form it will take, how it will be held accountable and other organisational issues.	Due to lodge: 13 September Due to DEV Committee: 19 September Due to Cabinet: 24 September

Released under the provision of the Official Information Act 1982

5. Cabinet material we have been consulted on

Paper name	Agency	Committee	Our advice on the paper
Ensuring effective regulation of health and safety risks associated with toxic or flammable refrigerant gases: Release of discussion document	MBIE	DEV	<p>This paper seeks Cabinet approval to release a discussion document seeking feedback on possible changes to regulations under the Health and Safety at Work Act in order to support a safe transition away from hydrofluorocarbon gases (HFCs).</p> <p>Ensuring that New Zealand's regulatory settings support a safe transition away from HFCs will provide direct support to MfE's efforts to ratify the Kigali Amendment in New Zealand. We support this paper and have requested MBIE that it be considered at the same Cabinet meeting as 2017-C-03734 'Agreement to ratify the Kigali Amendment to the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer'.</p>
Infrastructure Institutional Settings	Treasury	GOV	<p>The draft cabinet paper proposes to establish an Infrastructure Commission, which will support delivery of major infrastructure projects and provide independent advice on infrastructure policy and prioritisation of infrastructure projects.</p> <p>We consider that infrastructure project prioritisation and delivery needs to be guided by how infrastructure can support government policy goals such water quality, flood mitigation and integration with land use through spatial planning. Whatever institutional arrangements are decided upon, we recommend ensuring that infrastructure helps deliver these wider government goals. We are yet to see a final version of the paper.</p>
Urban development legislation: Māori interests and the Crown / Māori relationship	MBIE	DEV	<p>This paper seeks Cabinet approval for the urban development legislation to provide for Māori rights and interests.</p> <p>The Ministry supports the Ministers' proposals as they build on the Government's commitments to building its relationship with Māori. The protections for Māori rights and interests align with those in the RMA and Treaty settlements, thereby reducing the risk of costly delay to development as a result of any litigation from Māori landowners and mana whenua groups.</p>
Building Amendment Bill on managing buildings after an emergency event and powers to investigate building failures	MBIE	LEG	<p>MfE reviewed an update on the draft Bill and Cabinet Paper. Improvements to checks and balances in the bill have been added, including clarification of timeframes and who can exercise particular powers. MfE had no further comments to add at this time. MBIE was aiming to submit the draft Bill to the Cabinet Legislation Committee on 26 July.</p>

Paper name	Agency	Committee	Our advice on the paper
The One Billion Trees programme- actions and decisions for implementation	MPI / Te Uru Rākau	DEV	<p>The Minister of Forestry has circulated a draft Cabinet paper on the One Billion Trees Programme for Ministerial consultation.</p> <p>In general we support the proposals in the paper, in particular the establishment of the grants fund and the partnerships fund. We note that these two funds are likely to play a key role in supporting land owners to improve the sustainability of their land management practices (including biodiversity) and reduce their effects on water quality.</p> <p>We understand that climate changes outcomes will be driven by improvements to the ETS, rather than by providing additional grant funding for this purpose. We agree with this approach. We also note that joint ventures with the Crown can be effective in supporting development of Māori land and building capability of Māori landowners, but that these have a high upfront cost. We support the proposal in the paper that no decisions be taken now on extending JVs, but that officials provide more advice on this by December 2018.</p> <p>Given the potential importance of these funds to supporting water, land and biodiversity outcomes, we consider that the paper needs to be clearer about the objectives for the funds, the process by which the criteria for the funds will be set and the process for agreeing the delivery mechanism for the funds. We note that ultimately some proportion of the funds might be best delivered through third parties working directly with landowners, rather than through a traditional contestable application to a government agency. We also consider that officials from the Freshwater Taskforce should be directed to be part of the officials group working up further advice to Ministers. We have past these comments on to Te Uru Rākau, but at time of writing this we are yet to receive a revised paper.</p>

6. Official Information Act requests

6.1. Ministerial

Request	Correspondent	Reference	At your office	Due to send
I am requesting under the OIA, any minutes, memos, briefings and reports related to or stemming from, the recent Marine Ministers' meeting with Te Ohu Kaimoana. I am also requesting any correspondence, to and from, TOKM since November.	s 9(2)(a) Stuff	18-O-01208	28 June	5 July

6.2. Departmental

Request	Correspondent	Reference	Due to send
<p>The number, and details of the number of cyber attacks and cyber security incidents (ie an actual breach) experienced in the last two years</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - how many involved malware (malicious software like computer viruses, worms, Trojan horses, ransomware, spyware, scareware) - how many of these involved phishing emails aimed at staff? <p>Did any obtain sensitive information eg client info, usernames, passwords, credit card details?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - on how many occasions Did was there a loss or breaches of data as a result of cyber security incidents. Please give details. - on how many occasions was their a financial loss as a result of cyber security incidents? Please give details. - is training in cyber security awareness mandatory for staff? 	s 9(2)(a) [redacted] Stuff	18-D-01211	5 July
<p>In the last two years, broken down by year, how many requests for information under the act were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - denied in full - granted in part - granted in full <p>When refusing or partially refusing requests, what is the reason provided most often?</p> <p>How many responses have been extended beyond the 20- day deadline?</p> <p>On what subject / topic is information most regularly requested?</p> <p>On how many occasions have responses to requests been reviewed by the Minister before being released?</p>	s 9(2)(a) [redacted] Stuff	18-D-01212	6 July
<p>Under the Official Information Act I request all documents generated and received by MfE in relation to the cross-agency forum on new gene technologies/new biotechnologies since it began, including conception and approval of the initiative.</p>	s 9(2)(a) [redacted] Sustainability Council	18-D-00932	12 July
<p># A list of incidents since January 1 2016 that your organisation is aware of and in which documents, reports or other materials have been mistakenly left unaccompanied in public (such as a staff member leaving a folder of material in a café or taxi).</p> <p># For each of the above incidents please provide the following details: what material was involved and whether this included any information about members of the public and an overview of such details (i.e people's names, addresses, photographs), the date of the incident, where the material was left, whether it was recovered and how, and what actions took place as a result.</p> <p># For each of the incidents, please provide copies of any summary reports, documents or correspondence.</p>	s 9(2)(a) [redacted] NZ Herald	18-D-01327	16 July

Request	Correspondent	Reference	Due to send
<p>In the last three financial years, broken down by year, details of any restructuring that has taken place at the agency. This should include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - number of jobs disestablished - total number of redundancies - total number of jobs added - total number of jobs merged - refocusing aspects of any role - length and type of consultation <p>I am also requesting details of any change management consultants that have been employed to manage the workplace change process. Who were they, for how long were they employed, what was the rate and what was the total cost?</p>	s 9(2)(a) [redacted] Stuff	18-D-01420	18 July
I request the 2015 Consultation Document on the proposed changes to the National Environmental Standards for Telecommunications Facilities (NESTF).	s 9(2)(a) [redacted] Northland New Zealand Chemtrails Watch	18-D-01423	20 July
<p>1. A copy of all Thompson & Clark Investigations Ltd invoices tendered to Ministry for the Environment from March 31, 2013 - March 31, 2018.</p> <p>2. A copy of all threat assessment reports conducted by Thompson & Clark Investigations Ltd for Ministry for the Environment from March 31, 2013 - March 31, 2018.</p> <p>3. In the above time period on how many occasions did Thompson & Clark Investigations Ltd recommend that referrals be made to police about individuals?</p>	s 9(2)(a) [redacted] Newshub	18-D-01447	24 July

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Weekly Update – Hon David Parker, Minister for the Environment

For the week starting 16 July 2018

Upcoming meetings

- 17 July MfE officials meeting - Water
- 30 July MfE officials weekly meeting

Upcoming Events

- 17 July 5.30pm Launch of best practice guidelines on compliance, monitoring and enforcement
- 18 July TBC Hawke's Bay Regional Environmental Forum
- 1 August 9.00am EDS Conference speech (Minister Twyford also speaking at this event)
- 6-5 August TBC Ministerial Accord meetings with Waikato/Waipā River Iwi (led by Minister Mahuta)
- 21 September 9.00am RMLA Conference speech

Upcoming travel

- 22 July - 27 July *Minister travelling*

1. Progress towards Government's strategic priorities

1.1. Climate Change

Consultation on the Zero Carbon Bill will run through to 19 July. To date approximately 8,000 submissions have been received. Public meetings and hui around the country have been well attended. The schedule is currently being reviewed to see if the introduction of the Bill into the House can be brought forward.

1.2. Urban

On Monday 16 July you and Minister Twyford will receive further advice on the role of the Urban Development Authority (UDA) once development plans have been considered by the Independent Hearings Panel.

An update on the Urban Development Legislation (UDL) Cabinet papers follows

- The Resource Management Planning and Consenting Cabinet paper has been circulated by Minister Twyford for Ministerial comment, to be provided by 23 July
- The Powers Relating to Land Assembly, Reserves, Infrastructure and Funding Cabinet paper has been postponed to allow further feedback from Ministerial consultation. This paper will now be lodged on 26 July, considered by DEV on 1 August and by Cabinet on 6 August
- The Māori interests and the Crown / Māori relationship Cabinet paper is currently on hold awaiting feedback from Ministers on the ability to compulsorily acquire Māori land
- The fifth Cabinet paper details the UDA entity form, financial powers and arrangements. On 3 July Minister Twyford discussed entity options with the Ministries of Business, Innovation and Employment and Transport, the State Services Commission, Housing New Zealand Corporation, the New Zealand Transport Agency, and Homes. Land. Community. (HLC). On 20 July you and Minister Twyford will receive an A3 on UDA entity options to inform discussions with Ministers Mahuta, Jones and Sage on 25 July. As you are travelling at this time MfE officials will attend the meeting.

1.3. Water

Three Waters Review

The next Ministerial strategy session on Three Waters is proposed for 1 August. The agenda for this meeting will focus on possible regulatory arrangements for the three waters system. This covers public health, economic and environmental regulation. Minister Mahuta is proposing a meeting with yourself, and Ministers Faafoi and Clark before the 1 August meeting as Ministers directly responsible for three water related regulation.

The environmental regulatory arrangements include consideration of:

1. Source protection – managing the risks from land use and other activities on drinking water sources
2. Wastewater – tightening up compliance and enforcement

3. Improving freshwater quality – meeting the requirements of the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management and community expectations for wastewater and stormwater.

We will provide further advice to support your Ministerial discussions on these issues.

2. Updates for noting

2.1. Update on Overseer work programme

Officials are working to provide Ministers a series of Overseer policy advice over the next few months:

- 17 July: advice outlining the range of models available for use by both farmers and regional councils and their interrelationships;
- August: high-level advice on Overseer's strategic direction and recommendations for the use of the Budget 2018 funding; and
- September: detailed advice on:
 - options for use of the Budget 2018 funding
 - implications for funding, governance, ownership and management of intellectual property under each of the possible future uses of Overseer, and

s9(2)(j)

The project will lead to an interim report by the end of August 2018, and a full report by the end of September. These reports will form the basis of MfE and MPI officials' advice to Ministers in August and September noted above, including whether the funding should be used to subsidise subscription charges for Overseer as suggested in the letter you received from Bill Luff (Chair, Overseer Limited, 18 June).

2.2. New Zealand government attending the 24th meeting of the International Seabed Authority (ISA)

Representatives from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade will attend the 24^h session of the ISA in Jamaica from 16 to 27 July. This year's meeting will focus on the ongoing drafting of exploitation regulations to enable a transition from exploration of seabed minerals in the high seas to their exploitation. New Zealand has provided submissions to the ISA indicating its support for the broad framework, emphasizing the importance of environmental matters when developing the regulations.

2.3. Meeting with Auckland Council on National Direction on Quality Intensification

Ministry officials held a workshop with Auckland Council officials on National Direction on Quality Intensification on 5 July. Auckland Council attendees included representatives from regulatory and strategic planning, infrastructure, urban design, economic and sustainability offices, Healthy Waters, Panuku and Auckland Transport. Officials from the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment, Ministry of Transport and Treasury also attended.

A range of issues were discussed for the delivery of quality intensification, including opportunities to do more, particularly in the central suburbs. Other issues raised related to infrastructure provision, the Building Code's ability to support medium density housing typologies, and the Reserves Act not being fit for purpose. We will continue to engage with the Council on this work.

2.4. Release of the *Best practice guidelines on compliance, monitoring and enforcement under the RMA*

You are speaking at the launch event for the *Best practice guidelines on compliance monitoring and enforcement under the RMA* ('the guidelines') at Meredith Connell, Wellington on 13 July. On 3 July we provided you with a briefing (2018-B-04703) attaching a draft Ministerial foreword, the guidelines and a draft speech for the launch event.

2.5. MacKenzie Basin

Mackenzie District Council has informed us that several consents for dairy farm development at Simons Pass Station s9(2)(f)(iv) [REDACTED] been withdrawn.

With further consent applications still a possibility, we met with officials from Mackenzie District Council, the Department of Conservation, Land Information New Zealand and Environment Canterbury on 13 July to better understand how the broader issue of ecologically sustainable land and water management in the Mackenzie basin is being addressed. We will brief you further as the situation develops.

2.6. Tasman District Council (Waimea Water Augmentation Scheme) draft Bill notified 4 July

The Tasman District Council has publicly notified its intention to introduce a local Bill to enact the Tasman District Council (Waimea Water Augmentation Scheme) Act 2018. The Bill seeks the transfer of 1.3516 hectares of the bed of the Lee River to Council for the construction of a dam, and an easement to enable the inundation of 9.6690 hectares of land in the Mount Richmond State Forest Park. The Council has been advised by the Department of Conservation that they can no longer use the Public Works Act to transfer the 9.6690 hectares of land required to be inundated as part of the Scheme.

In August 2017 the Waimea Augmentation Scheme gained a \$7 million grant from the Freshwater Improvement Fund. Funding was subject to a number of conditions, included that;

- Funding will only contribute towards the environmental benefit and public good component of the Scheme
- Co-funding from Crown Irrigation Investments Limited (\$25 million), Waimea Irrigators Limited (\$15 million) and Nelson City Council (\$5 million) is secured.

While the Bill may go some way to address land requirements for the construction and operation of the dam, there are still outstanding matters that remain to be addressed, notably the securing of the outstanding co-funding. Tasman District Council is currently in discussions with the co-funding partners to seek security of their funding commitment.

It is unlikely that financial co-funding will be secured until March 2019 at the earliest and most favourable timeline for a local bill.

2.7. Fees for Hazardous Substances and New Organisms Applications

The Environment Protection Authority (EPA) has completed its consultation and analysis of submissions on the proposed new fees for hazardous substances and new organisms' applications. You will recall that the fees have not changed since 2005. The proposed fee increases ranged from 1.7 to 8 times more than the present fees. The EPA Board sets the fees but, because of the scale of increases proposed, you considered it appropriate to advise the Cabinet Committee of the consultation, which you did in February. The Board made their final decision on the fees on 12 July. The new fees will come into effect on 1 October. A formal letter from the Board Chair will be forwarded to you and Hon Sage shortly, advising of the new fees and the outcome of the consultation.

The review of the Hazardous Substances and New Organisms fees contributes to the overall work to improve the financial situation of the EPA. Although quite large individual fees increases were agreed to by the Board, overall the annual increase in revenue from the fees is estimated at only \$650,000. This increase in revenue is insufficient for the EPA to progress its hazardous substances modernisation work, in particular, reassessments and increased compliance monitoring work.

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2.8. Freshwater Science Panel

Progress is being made in establishing a new science panel to provide advice on the science underpinning changes to the Freshwater National Direction. Below is a list of proposed members who would form the core panel. There is also an option to co-opt in individuals for meetings if additional expertise is required. Members have been selected to represent a breadth of expertise across freshwater disciplines and from a range of organisations. We would like to discuss the list below with you at our meeting on 17 July.

<i>Panel Member</i>	<i>Expertise</i>
<p>Dr Clive Howard-Williams NIWA Previous Chair Science Review Panel.</p>	<p>Aquatic ecology Fresh and estuarine water quality Aquatic ecosystem processes</p>
<p>Dr Jane Kitson Director, Kitson Consulting Previous member of Science Review Panel.</p>	<p>Ecology Coastal and freshwater environmental science Traditional ecological knowledge; Mātauranga Māori Accredited RMA decision maker.</p>
<p>Dr Chris Daughney Director, Environment and Materials Division, GNS Science Previous member of Science Review Panel.</p>	<p>Geochemistry Geomicrobiology Hydrogeology</p>
<p>Dr Bev Clarkson Capability Leader of Biodiversity and Conservation Team, Manaaki Whenua Landcare Research Previous member of Science Review Panel</p>	<p>Plant ecology Wetlands</p>
<p>Dr Malcolm Green Director, Streamlined Environmental Previous member of Science Review</p>	<p>Coastal and estuarine physical processes Sediment transport Accredited RMA decision maker.</p>
<p>Graham Sevicke-Jones Director Science and Information, Environment Southland Previous member of Science Review Panel</p>	<p>Science management Environmental monitoring programmes Science to policy interface Fresh and marine water quality.</p>
<p>Ken Taylor Director, Our Land and Water National Science Challenge Previous Chair of National Objectives Framework Reference Group that previously provided technical input to attributes in the Freshwater NPS.</p>	<p>Environmental Science Environmental policy Natural resource management Local government.</p>

<p>Prof. Ian Hawes University of Waikato</p>	<p>Biology Geobiology Microbial ecology Plant physiology Limnology Statistics.</p>
<p>Prof. Jenny Webster-Brown Director, Waterways Centre for Freshwater Management, University of Canterbury</p>	<p>Aquatic chemistry and quality Heavy metals in rivers and lakes Geochemistry.</p>
<p>Dr Jon Roygard Group Manager, Natural Resources and Partnerships, Horizons Regional Council Previous member of the National Objectives Framework Reference Group</p>	<p>Environmental science Biodiversity Natural resource management Environmental policy.</p>
<p>Dr Marc Schallenberg University of Otago President of New Zealand Freshwater Sciences Society</p>	<p>Aquatic microbial ecology Lake ecosystems.</p>
<p>Dr Mike Joy Senior Researcher School of Government, Victoria University of Wellington</p>	<p>Freshwater ecology Spatial ecology Predictive ecology Applied ecology Environmental Science</p>
<p>Prof. Russel Death Massey University</p>	<p>Freshwater ecology Community ecology.</p>
<p>Dr Adam Canning Research scientist/ Technical advisor, Fish and Game</p>	<p>Aquatic ecology</p>
<p>Dr Bryce Cooper General Manager Strategy, NIWA</p>	<p>Microbiology In land use effects on water quality and the role of riparian zones.</p>

3. Briefing notes

16 July – 17 August

Title	Lead agency	What this briefing covers	Due to your office
Urban Development Legislation: Further advice on the role of the UDA in development plan decisions	MfE / MBIE	Provides you with further advice on the Urban Development Agency (UDA) Legislation, specifically on options of the role of the UDA once development plans have been considered by the Independent Hearings Panel.	16 July
Seeking Cabinet approval to ratify the Kigali Amendment on HFCs	MfE	Provides you with a Cabinet paper and National Interest Analysis, to progress ratifying the Kigali Amendment on HFCs	16 July
Update on progress of Otago Regional Council regarding the expiration of deemed permits in 2021	MfE	Provides an overview of the transfer of deemed permits (mining rights) to resource consents in Otago. Also provides possible course of action for ways you can support the process.	17 July
Environmental Protection Authority Board - Letters of Appointment	MfE	Provides you with the set of appointment letters to sign and send to the new appointees after the APH and Cabinet meetings. Also provided are letters to thank the outgoing Board members. The appointments process will conclude once all appointees have provided their written response.	17 July
Appointment of Alternate Environment Judge and its potential inclusion in the RM Amendment Bill 2018	MfE	Provides you with advice on the inclusion of an amendment to clarify the appointment of Alternate Environment Court Judges in the narrow RM Amendment Bill 2018	18 July
EDS Conference and Speech	MfE	Overview of EDS conference and draft speaking notes	18 July
Urban Growth Agenda: Programme update and	MfE	Provides information to support UGA Ministers at	20 July

next steps		their meeting on 7 August to discuss progress on the UGA	
Reclassifying five organisms as "not new" under the Hazardous Substances and New Organisms Act 1996	MfE	Paper proposing that five organisms be reclassified as "not new" under the Hazardous Substances and New Organisms Act 1996	24 July
Work programme update, Restoring our Freshwater	MfE	Provides you with an overview of the work programme for 'Restoring our Freshwater', and sets out timeframes and approaches for the delivery of this work. This briefing will also provide you with advice on Board of Inquiry processes, including timeframes and costs.	26 July
Consideration of the Rotorua Te Arawa Lakes Annual Work Programme 2018-19 and Three-year Work Programme.	MfE	Seeks your consideration and approval of the Rotorua Te Arawa Lakes Annual Work Plan for 2018-19 and their three-year work programme. Approval of the AWP triggers payment of the first of two payments to the Programme the second being made on approval of the 6-month report.	31 July

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Initial advice on strategic integrated planning	MfE	Sets out initial advice for options on the objectives, scope and approach to strategic integrated planning as part of the pro-growth planning pillar of the urban growth agenda.	31 July
Review of the Drinking Water NES	MfE	Provides advice on the findings of the Review of the National Environmental Standard for Sources of Human Drinking Water (Drinking Water NES), including recommendations for enhancing the regulatory framework for the protection of drinking water sources under the RMA	31 July
Fiordland Marine Guardians - Recommendations for Crown appointments.	MfE	Provides you with recommendations to appoint two new Fiordland Marine Guardians, replacing the two outgoing Guardians whose terms end in October. Following your approval we will provide you with a Cabinet paper to take to the Appointments and Honours Committee at the end of September that sets out your recommendations.	1 August
ELA Fund Annual Report 2017/18	MfE	Environmental Legal Assistance Fund Annual Report for financial year 2017/18	3 August

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4. Cabinet material being prepared for you

16 July – 17 August

Paper name	Committee	What this paper covers	Our Suggested timeframes
Resource Management Act Amendment Bill 2018	(ENV) Cabinet Environment, Energy and Climate Committee	Seeks agreement to a narrowly scoped RMA Amendment Bill to be progressed in 2018 as stage one of a two stage approach to RMA Reform.	Due to lodge: 26 July Due to ENV Committee: 31 July Due to Cabinet: 6 August
Urban Development Legislation: Resource Management Planning and Consenting	(DEV) Cabinet Economic Development Committee	This paper outlines the proposed planning and consenting powers that the Urban Development Authority will be enabled to use.	Due to lodge: 26 July Due to DEV Committee: 1 August Due to Cabinet: 6 August
Reclassifying five organisms as "not new" under the Hazardous Substances and New Organisms Act 1996	(ENV) Cabinet Environment, Energy and Climate Committee	Paper proposing that five organisms be reclassified as "not new" under the Hazardous Substances and New Organisms Act 1996	Due to you: 24 July Due to lodge: 9 August Due to ENV Committee: 14 August Due to Cabinet: 20 August
Approval to ratify the Kigali Amendment to the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer	(DEV) Cabinet Economic Development Committee	Seeks Cabinet's agreement to ratify the Kigali Amendment to the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer on 1 October 2019. To achieve this, the paper seeks agreement to undertake parliamentary treaty examination and draft proposed amendments to the Ozone Layer Protection Regulations required to implement the Amendment.	Due to lodge: 2 August Due to DEV Committee: 8 August Due to Cabinet: 13 August
Urban Development Legislation: Entity form	(DEV) Cabinet Economic Development Committee	This paper outlines how the new entity will operate, what form it will take, how it will be held accountable and other organisational issues.	Due to lodge: 13 September Due to DEV Committee: 19 September Due to Cabinet: 24 September
Ministerial Advisory Group review of the Hazardous Substances Compliance System	(ENV) or (DEV) - <i>time dependant</i>	This paper seeks to provide background on issues with the hazardous substances compliance system and to seek agreement on the establishment of a Ministerial Advisory Group to undertake a review of the hazardous compliance system.	Due to Committee: <i>TBC</i> Due to Cabinet: <i>TBC</i>

5. Cabinet material we have been consulted on

Paper name	Agency	Committee	Our advice on the paper
Ensuring effective regulation of health and safety risks associated with toxic or flammable refrigerant gases: Release of discussion document	MBIE	DEV	<p>This paper seeks Cabinet approval to release a discussion document seeking feedback on possible changes to regulations under the Health and Safety at Work Act in order to support a safe transition away from hydrofluorocarbon gases (HFCs).</p> <p>We support this paper as ensuring that New Zealand's regulatory settings support a safe transition away from HFCs will provide direct support to MfE's efforts to ratify the Kigali Amendment in New Zealand.</p>
Urban Development Authority Legislation: Powers Relating to Land Assembly, Reserves, Infrastructure and Funding	MBIE	(DEV) Cabinet Economic Development Committee	<p>This paper outlines the proposed powers that the Urban Development Authority will be enabled to use, including: infrastructure and funding, land assembly, and powers over reserves. We are generally supportive of the proposals in this Cabinet paper.</p>
Urban Development Legislation: Māori interests and the Crown / Māori relationship	MBIE	(DEV) Cabinet Economic Development Committee	<p>This paper outlines how the UDA will respect the rights and interests of Māori throughout the development project.</p> <p>We have provided agency feedback on this paper to achieve the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • more consistency with other Cab papers • more accurate scope of participation arrangements available to local government <p>clarity in terms of what is being proposed.</p>
The One Billion Trees programme – actions and decisions for implementation	MPI	DEV (target date 26 July)	<p>In the weekly report for week beginning 2 July we advised that we generally support the proposals in an early draft of the One Billion Trees draft Cabinet paper, but that further clarification was needed on: the objectives for the funds being proposed in the paper; the process by which the criteria for the funds will be set; and the process for agreeing the delivery mechanism for the funds. We have been provided a revised draft of the paper, which we consider addresses the issues we raised. In particular, the revised paper recommends a process to decide how the funds will be delivered and targeted. That process includes the Environment Minister as a decision-making Minister. We understand the intention is to circulate a revised draft paper to Forestry Ministers for consultation.</p>

6. Official Information Act requests

6.1. Ministerial

Request	Correspondent	Reference	At your office	Due to send
"- a list of all reports and briefings, by title and date, received from any government departments since 1 May 2018, in relation to the roles of Minister for the Environment, and Attorney-General."	s 9(2)(a) Stuff	18-O-01474	23 July	30 July

6.2. Departmental

Request	Correspondent	Reference	Due to send
<p># A list of incidents since January 1 2016 that your organisation is aware of and in which documents, reports or other materials have been mistakenly left unaccompanied in public (such as a staff member leaving a folder of material in a café or taxi).</p> <p># For each of the above incidents please provide the following details: what material was involved and whether this included any information about members of the public and an overview of such details (i.e people's names, addresses, photographs), the date of the incident, where the material was left, whether it was recovered and how, and what actions took place as a result.</p> <p># For each of the incidents, please provide copies of any summary reports, documents or correspondence.</p>	s 9(2)(a) NZ Herald	18-D-01327	16 July
<p>In the last three financial years, broken down by year, details of any restructuring that has taken place at the agency. This should include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - number of jobs disestablished - total number of redundancies - total number of jobs added - total number of jobs merged - refocusing aspects of any role - length and type of consultation <p>I am also requesting details of any change management consultants that have been employed to manage the workplace change process. Who were they, for how long were they employed, what was the rate and what was the total cost?</p>	s 9(2)(a) Stuff	18-D-01420	18 July
I request the 2015 Consultation Document on the proposed changes to the National Environmental Standards for Telecommunications Facilities (NESTF).	s 9(2)(a) Northland New Zealand Chemtrails Watch	18-D-01423	20 July

Request	Correspondent	Reference	Due to send
<p>1. A copy of all Thompson & Clark Investigations Ltd invoices tendered to Ministry for the Environment from March 31, 2013 - March 31, 2018.</p> <p>2. A copy of all threat assessment reports conducted by Thompson & Clark Investigations Ltd for Ministry for the Environment from March 31, 2013 - March 31, 2018.</p> <p>3. In the above time period on how many occasions did Thompson & Clark Investigations Ltd recommend that referrals be made to police about individuals?</p>	<p>s 9(2)(a) Newshub</p>	<p>18-D-01447</p>	<p>24 July</p>

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Weekly Update – Hon David Parker, Minister for the Environment

For the week starting 30 July 2018

Environment weekly meeting 11.00 am – 11.45am, Monday 30 July

Attendees: Hon David Parker, Minister for the Environment

Martin Workman, Director, Water

Jo Gascoigne, Director, Land, Air & RM Practice

Glenn Wigley, Director Marine, Environmental Risk & Science

Natalie Pike, Senior Solicitor

Claire Gibb, Senior Analyst, RM Practice

Oliver Sangster, Senior Analyst, RM Practice

	Agenda Item	Lead	Paper / verbal update	Mins
1.	Discuss Weekly Update	Martin Workman	Verbal update	10
2.	Water update	Martin Workman	Verbal update	15
3.	Mana Whakahono ā Rohe	Claire Gibb, Natalie Pike	Verbal update	5
4.	Resource Management Bill	Oliver Sangster	Verbal update	10
5.	Gene technology – feedback on the overview and next steps paper	Glenn Wigley	2018-B-04195	5

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the Official Information Act 1982

Upcoming meetings

30 July	11:00am	MfE officials weekly meeting
31 July	8:15am	Minister meeting with Vicky Robertson on work programme and priorities
	3:30pm	Minister's weekly meeting with Minister Sage
1 August	3:30pm	Meeting with Minister Davis, MfE and CMR officials regarding Water papers and iwi engagement
2 August	11:15am	MfE officials policy meeting – Urban Development Authority and Urban Growth Agenda
6 August	4.00pm	MfE officials weekly meeting
	6:00pm	Meeting with Ministers Twyford, Mahuta, Jones, Sage and Hipkins on Urban Development Authority and organisational form
7 August	8:30am	Meeting with Ministers Twyford, Mahuta, Jones and Genter on Urban Growth Agenda
	3:30pm	Minister's weekly meeting with Minister Sage
8 August	5:45pm	Meeting with Parliamentary Commissioner for the Environment
9 August	8:00am	Three Waters pre meet with Ministers Mahuta, Clark and Faafoi
	11:15am	Meeting with Minister O'Connor and officials on Freshwater work programme

Upcoming Events

1 August	9.00am	EDS Conference speech (Minister Twyford also speaking at this event)
9 August	10.30am	Environmental Legal Assistance Fund AGM and meeting
24 August		Regional visit to Southland
21 September	9.00am	RMLA Conference speech

1. Progress towards Government's strategic priorities

1.1. Climate Change

Consultation on the Zero Carbon Bill closed on 19 July. Thirty seven public meetings and hui were attended around the country and over 15,000 submissions received. Approximately 70 percent are form submissions.

Timeframes are being reviewed taking into account the number of submissions, feedback from the meetings and additional evidence required to inform final policy decisions. The Kigali papers are out for consultation, both cross-party and relevant Ministers. Subject to consultation, the Cabinet paper will be lodged this week, to be considered by DEV Committee on 8 August.

1.2. Urban

You indicated that you wish to discuss the role of the Urban Development Authority (UDA) in making decisions on the final development plan, following advice provided on 19 July. We will discuss this with you on 2 August.

On Monday 6 August, you will meet with Ministers Twyford, Mahuta, Hipkins, Sage and Jones to discuss the UDA entity.

Also on Monday 6 August, Ministers Twyford and Mahuta are meeting with Green Party Co-Leader Marama Davidson MP and Green Party Ministers Genter and Sage to discuss the Urban Development Authority. Minister Sage has asked us to attend in case there are planning and consenting questions.

We are awaiting ministerial feedback on the Urban Development Legislation: Resource Management Planning and Consenting Cabinet paper. Once received we will make amendments before lodging.

1.3. Water

You have received a briefing on setting up the Kahui-Wai Maori forum and Freshwater Leaders Group. The briefing also provides a process for the release of water cabinet papers on 13 August for you to discuss with Minister Davis at your meeting on 1 August.

You will also receive a briefing on proposed changes to the NPS Freshwater, and for a NES Freshwater and process options. We will discuss the briefing with you and Minister O'Connor on 9 August, but are available earlier if required.

2. Updates for noting

2.1. Treaty settlement negotiations – Kaipara Harbour

s9(2)(j)



2.2. Update on National Planning Standards consultation

Regional roadshows on the draft first set of National Planning Standards (planning standards) have now finished. The 18 roadshows had very high interest, attracting approximately 1000 attendees. A wide range of groups were represented including environmental NGOs, councils, consultancies and industry groups. We met with councils in each location and held seven hui.

Early feedback suggests that the first set strikes an appropriate balance of consistency and local variation. Questions asked at the roadshows were highly technical and detailed. Practitioners are now beginning to understand how plans will need to change to align with the planning standards.

Roadshows: Observations and themes

- Substantial rule redrafting may be necessary because of standard definitions. Current plan definitions often function as quasi-rules and contain inclusions, exclusions and additional detail. The planning standards definitions have not been drafted in this way for clarity. Requiring rules to be in tables was also noted as being challenging, particularly for complex rules. We are continuing to test how this could work for a variety of plan formats.
- Practitioners appear generally supportive of a structured approach to including local variation in plans through consistent zones and common spatial planning tools such as overlays and precincts.
- Practitioners are interested in what future sets of planning standards may address, and how they will be used with other national direction tools. There is interest from different sector groups in having standardised provisions for their activities (eg, retirement village sector, utility providers) and having standardised metrics or methodologies to support the identification and management of resources such as freshwater, landscapes and biodiversity.
- Concerns raised that placing iwi consultation processes directly into an RMA plan may preclude adopting new and innovative methods without first having to follow a plan change process.

Council meetings: Observations and themes

- General support for the revised implementation approach offering five years for most councils and seven years to those that are about to, or have recently settled a large plan review process. This has largely allayed concerns raised with the default RMA timeframes.
- Concerns the requirement to transition to an ePlan system requires financial and human resources that many councils do not currently have, or have not budgeted

for. It was often suggested that central government should bear the costs of paying for councils to upgrade to an ePlan.

- Messages that ongoing implementation support for councils into the future is critical to embedding the first set of planning standards so that they achieve their intended outcomes.

Hui: Observations and themes

- Support for providing a consistent location for references to relevant iwi planning documents, while still integrating Māori values throughout plans and policy statements.

Next steps

Following analysis of submissions and possible workshops you will receive a number of briefings over the next few months, including:

- update on submissions received (early September)
- briefing on the zone framework and spatial planning tools standards (early October)
- detailed briefing on submissions, options analysis and seeking your direction for final decisions (December)
- briefing seeking decisions on the RMA section 32AA further evaluation report and recommendations on the draft planning standards, including draft cabinet paper (February 2019).

We note also that the first set of National Planning Standards must be approved by 18 April 2019. The New Zealand Planning Institute is holding its annual conference from 2-5 April 2019. This could provide an opportunity for you to launch the final first set of planning standards should the necessary processes be fulfilled.

2.3. Release of final guidance for the National Environmental Standards for Telecommunications Facilities 2016

In early August we will publish a finalised users' guide to support implementation of the Resource Management (National Environmental Standards for Telecommunications Facilities) Regulations 2016 (NESTF 2016). The users' guide has been developed by the Ministry for Business, Innovation and Employment, with support from us, to assist councils and the telecommunications industry to understand and implement the NESTF 2016

The NESTF 2016 replaced the NESTF 2008, and sets national consistency in the rules for deployment of low impact telecommunications infrastructure, while ensuring environmental effects are managed appropriately. A draft users' guide was developed during 2017 in collaboration with a technical advisory group. Nine submissions were received during a public feedback period, which resulted in only minor amendments. We have sent the final draft to your office for your information. The guidance will be published on our website and councils and key industry contacts notified of its release. Minister Curran has also been provided with this update.

2.4. Hazardous substances compliance and enforcement review

We have provided your office with an update on the proposed review of hazardous substances compliance. The update provides a proposed Terms of Reference, along with some potential candidates to undertake the review.

The review is an important first step towards strengthening hazardous substances compliance. The work complements similar compliance work underway, including the establishment of the Compliance Oversight Unit which aims to increase the quantity, effectiveness and transparency of RMA enforcement actions.

Minister Sage will discuss this with you at your weekly meeting with her on Tuesday.

2.5. Publication of technical report on Hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs) in New Zealand

In early August we will publish a technical report on HFCs in New Zealand which includes a breakdown of HFC use by sector. In 2017 we commissioned the *Hydrofluorocarbon Consumption in New Zealand* report from Australian consultants the Expert Group as part of our work to ratify the Kigali Amendment to phase down HFCs. The report informed the National Interest Analysis for the Kigali Amendment, which you received as an Appendix to Cabinet paper 2017-C-03734. We do not anticipate any significant risks from publication.

2.6. Decommissioning Regulations

The discussion document on *Proposed policy for regulating decommissioning under the Exclusive Economic Zone and Continental Shelf (Environmental Effects) Act 2012* was publicly released on 17 July.

The document can be viewed on our website at the following link: www.mfe.govt.nz/publications/marine/proposed-policy-regulating-decommissioning-under-eez-continental-shelf-act-2012.

We have contacted interested parties and iwi in the Taranaki region to advise them that we are seeking feedback on the proposals. It is likely that we will also meet with iwi and key stakeholders in August to discuss the proposals. The submission period closes on 21 September at 5pm.

2.7. Three Waters

You have a meeting of the Three Waters Strategic Ministers group on 15 August and a pre-meet with Ministers Clark, Mahuta and Faafoi on 9 August. We understand that the strategic ministers meeting will discuss the regulatory aspects of three waters and options for the next phases of the work, including Cabinet decision points. We will provide you with advice on the environmental regulation aspects of three waters ahead of these meetings. You will also receive a slide pack to support the discussions from Minister Mahuta's office.

2.8. Horizons Regional Council One Plan – Progress Update

We have provisional agreement from Horizons, Fish and Game (F&G), and EDS to attend a workshop aimed at developing a planning solution to the nitrogen discharge issues in the One Plan. The workshop will be facilitated by us and include independent legal and planning advisors. If this workshop is successful we expect Horizons to notify a plan change within the calendar year.

We have received a request for official information from TVNZ for the meeting notes of the meeting held between you, Horizons, F&G, and EDS on 21 June.

You have also received a letter from Barry Gordon, Chair of Horizons, setting out their intention to continue to work with us, giving an overview of the work they are doing to improve water quality, and acknowledging there is more work to be done.

We will update you on progress after the planning workshop takes place.

3. Briefing notes

30 July – 24 August

Title	Lead agency	What this briefing covers	Due to your office
Three Waters Environmental Regulation	MfE	Information on the regulation of Three Waters Infrastructure under the RMA and the implications of potential regulatory changes.	30 July
Auckland Unitary Plan Height and Density Fact Sheet	MfE	This is the first of four factsheets on key Auckland Unitary Plan rules. It provides a summary of height and density rules and a brief description of their implications.	31 July
Initial advice on strategic integrated planning	MfE	Sets out initial advice for options on the objectives, scope and approach to strategic integrated planning as part of the pro-growth planning pillar of the urban growth agenda.	31 July
Review of the Drinking Water NES	MfE	Provides advice on the findings of the Review of the National Environmental Standard for Sources of Human Drinking Water (Drinking Water NES), including recommendations for enhancing the regulatory framework for the protection of drinking water sources under the RMA	31 July
Fiordland Marine Guardians - Recommendations for Crown appointments.	MfE	Provides you with recommendations to appoint two new Fiordland Marine Guardians, replacing the two outgoing Guardians whose terms end in October. Following your approval we will provide you with a Cabinet paper to take to the Appointments and Honours Committee at the end of September that sets out your recommendations.	1 August
National Direction on Quality Intensification	MfE	Provides you with advice on national direction tools	3 August

		to support quality intensification and outlines timeframes for delivery for national direction instruments.	
ELA Fund Annual Report 2017/18	MfE	Environmental Legal Assistance Fund Annual Report for financial year 2017/18	3 August
Short-term and long term measures to manage elite and versatile soils	MPI	Provides an overview of the proposed work on elite and versatile soils, and notes that stakeholder workshops are planned to develop the problem definition and options for intervention. MPI have recommended that Hon O'Connor forward this briefing to you (as it was not a joint briefing).	3 August
Reclassifying five organisms as "not new" under the Hazardous Substances and New Organisms Act 1996	MfE	Briefing with Cabinet Paper 2018-C-04671 on reclassifying five organisms as "not new" under the HNSO Act	12 August
Compliance Oversight Unit - approach and location	MfE	As requested, sets out how the Unit will monitor council compliance, monitoring and enforcement activities and take action to address issues (including through use of prosecutions), and advice on whether the Unit is best located at MfE or the EPA.	20 August

4. Cabinet material being prepared for you

30 July – 24 August

Paper name	Committee	What this paper covers	Our Suggested timeframes
Urban Development Legislation: Resource Management Planning and Consenting	(DEV) Cabinet Economic Development Committee	This paper outlines the proposed planning and consenting powers that the Urban Development Authority will be enabled to use.	Due to lodge: 2 August Due to DEV Committee: 8 August Due to Cabinet: 13 August

Paper name	Committee	What this paper covers	Our Suggested timeframes
Approval to ratify the Kigali Amendment to the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer	(DEV) Cabinet Economic Development Committee	Seeks Cabinet's agreement to ratify the Kigali Amendment to the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer on 1 October 2019. To achieve this, the paper seeks agreement to undertake parliamentary treaty examination and draft proposed amendments to the Ozone Layer Protection Regulations required to implement the Amendment.	Due to lodge: 2 August Due to DEV Committee: 8 August Due to Cabinet: 13 August
Resource Management Act Amendment Bill 2018	(ENV) Cabinet Environment, Energy and Climate Committee	Seeks agreement to a narrowly scoped RMA Amendment Bill to be progressed in 2018 as stage one of a two stage approach to RMA Reform.	Due to lodge: 9 August Due to ENV Committee: 14 August Due to Cabinet: 20 August
Urban Development Legislation: Entity form	(DEV) Cabinet Economic Development Committee	This paper outlines how the new entity will operate, what form it will take, how it will be held accountable and other organisational issues.	Due to lodge: 13 September Due to DEV Committee: 19 September Due to Cabinet: 24 September
Reclassifying five organisms as "not new" under the Hazardous Substances and New Organisms Act 1996	(ENV) Cabinet Environment, Energy and Climate Committee	Paper proposing that five organisms be reclassified as "not new" under the Hazardous Substances and New Organisms Act 1996	Due to lodge: TBC Due to ENV Committee: TBC Due to Cabinet: TBC
Ministerial Advisory Group review of the Hazardous Substances Compliance System	(ENV) or (DEV) - <i>time dependant</i>	This paper seeks to provide background on issues with the hazardous substances compliance system and to seek agreement on the establishment of a Ministerial Advisory Group to undertake a review of the hazardous compliance system.	Due to Committee: TBC Due to Cabinet: TBC

5. Cabinet material we have been consulted on

Paper name	Agency	Committee	Our advice on the paper
Urban Development Authority Legislation: Powers Relating to Land Assembly, Reserves, Infrastructure and Funding	MBIE	(DEV) Cabinet Economic Development Committee	This paper outlines the proposed powers that the Urban Development Authority will be enabled to use, including: infrastructure and funding, land assembly, and powers over reserves. We are generally supportive of the proposals in this Cabinet paper.

Paper name	Agency	Committee	Our advice on the paper
Urban Development Legislation: Māori interests and the Crown / Māori relationship	MBIE	(DEV) Cabinet Economic Development Committee	<p>This paper outlines how the UDA will respect the rights and interests of Māori throughout the development project.</p> <p>We have provided agency feedback on this paper to achieve the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • more consistency with other Cab papers • more accurate scope of participation arrangements available to local government • clarity in terms of what is being proposed.

6. Official Information Act requests

6.1. Ministerial

Request	Correspondent	Reference	At your office	Due to requester
A list of all reports and briefings, by title and date, received from any government departments since 1 May 2018, in relation to the roles of Minister for the Environment, and Attorney-General.	s 9(2)(a) Stuff	18-O-01474	23 July	30 July
A copy of the minutes from a meeting with the Environment Minister David Parker, Horizons Regional Council, Environmental Defence Society and Fish and Game during June 2018	s 9(2)(a) 1 News	18-O-01574	30 July	6 August
<p>1) When does the Minister intend to publicly release a draft of the amended NPS-FM?</p> <p>2) Will the Minister also be releasing an NES on freshwater, if so when?</p> <p>3) A description of the internal and public process and timeline for the changes to the NPS-FM as well as to the NES if applicable.</p>	s 9(2)(a) Greenpeace New Zealand		13 August	20 August

6.2. Departmental

Request	Correspondent	Reference	Due to send
Minutes of the Water Technical Advisory Group	s 9(2)(a) Stuff	18-D-01575	8 August
Documents that reflect the amounts of money paid through Te Mana o Te Wai Fund to, or for the benefit of, Lake Horowhenua Trustees or Muaūpoko as tangata whenua for Lake Horowhenua.	s 9(2)(a) Lyall & Thornton Barristers and Solicitors	18-D-01607	14 August

Request	Correspondent	Reference	Due to send
<p>1) Potential Topics of Inquiry for the Environment Select Committee (dated April 6, 2018).</p> <p>2) Charges on exports of bottled water (dated April 13, 2018).</p> <p>3) Proposed scope of a narrow Resource Management Act Amendment Bill 2018 (dated April 23, 2018).</p>	s 9(2)(a) [redacted] Stuff	18-D-01627	17 August
<p>Specifically we request all and any information as to why the MfE ceased being the regulatory body for NZS 5465 in 2001 (or thereabouts).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What were the reasons for ceasing to be the authority? • How did MfE expect the standard to be regulated? • What are MfE's current considerations about how the NZS is now being handled, promoted etc? • Any other relevant information around the process of ceasing to be the authority, the ongoing shambles which the NZS has become recently and any thoughts MfE about again becoming involved in the standard as regulatory body going forward. • Does MfE as the past regulatory Body, believe the NZS should be used as a method by a private organisation / club as a means to discriminate / alienate non members from camping in public places? • What are the views of MfE on the involvement of NZMCA in promoting the NZS? • Does MfE believe that a regulatory review of the standard should be undertaken if the NZS was to become a cited Standard in light of the shambles it has become? 	s 9(2)(a) [redacted] Responsible Campers Association	18-D-01625	20 August
<p>Provide the "acceptable levels of contamination" for residential areas as listed in the National Environmental Standards for assessing and managing contaminants in soil to protect human health? and for lifestyle blocks? and for recreational areas?</p> <p>Outline the process that allowed the contamination levels for residential areas, lifestyle blocks and recreational areas to be included in the standards?</p>	s 9(2)(a) [redacted] Whakatane Beacon and Opotiki News	18-D-01628	21 August

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