



Cabinet Economic Growth and Infrastructure Committee

EGI Min (13) 6/4

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Minute of Decision

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A Proposed National Environmental Standard for Plantation Forestry

Portfolio: Environment

On 27 March 2013, the Cabinet Economic Growth and Infrastructure Committee (EGI):

- 1 **noted** that in August 2010, EGI agreed to the Ministry for the Environment publicly releasing the discussion document “Proposed National Environmental Standard on Plantation Forestry” [EGI Min (10) 19/5];
- 2 **noted** that the objective of the proposed National Environmental Standard for Plantation Forestry is to bring about a more consistent and appropriate plantation forestry management framework while facilitating the sustainable management of natural and physical resources;
- 3 **noted** that consultation undertaken between 2010 and 2012, working group discussions, and cost-benefit analyses have highlighted concerns about whether the proposed National Environmental Standard for Plantation Forestry is fit for purpose;
- 4 **noted** that there is currently a discussion document on resource management out for public consultation and a white paper on water reform is receiving public feedback, and that these reforms could impact on the viability and necessity of the proposed National Environmental Standard for Plantation Forestry;
- 5 **agreed to defer** further work on the proposed National Environmental Standard for Plantation Forestry and review the need for it once the 2013 resource management and water reforms have been completed;
- 6 **agreed** that the Ministry for Primary Industries continue to work with industry and stakeholders to explore complementary measures to address forestry issues, building on the work done to date;
- 7 **invited** the Minister for the Environment to report back to EGI on progress by 30 June 2014.