



Weekly update - Minister for Climate Change

Finalised on 31 August for the week commencing 3 September

Date: 3 September
Time: 1.45 - 3.45 pm
Location: Office of the Minister for Climate Change

Attendees: Hon James Shaw, Minister for Climate Change
Vicky Robertson, Chief Executive, Ministry for the Environment
Cheryl Barnes, Deputy Secretary, Water & Climate Change
Roger Lincoln, Director, Climate Change
Janine Smith, Acting Director, Climate Change Policy
Bridget Fraser, Manager, Climate Change Policy
Craig Salmon, Manager, Climate Change Policy
Paul Alexander Director Transition Hub
For item 3: Sue-Ellen Fenelon, Manager, Climate Change Policy
Matt Cowie, Principal Advisor, Climate Change Policy

	Agenda	Lead	Time
1	Context	Cheryl Barnes	10 mins
2	Productivity Commission Report - Discuss key findings and responses	Paul Alexander	10 mins
3	Zero Carbon Bill - Your feedback on updated cabinet paper and RIS - Ministerial Consultation - Link between ETS, carbon budgets and targets	Janine Smith	110 mins

Upcoming meetings 27 August – 07 September

Monday 3 September	Productivity Commission briefing on the Low Emissions Economy report release MFE Officials Meeting Red team prep session on the Productivity Commission report Meeting with Hon Parker to discuss the ZCB
Tuesday 4 September	Forestry Ministers' meeting Horticulture NZ Meeting with Todd Muller
Wednesday 5 September	Lunch meeting with the Executive Council of the Forest Owners Association Climate Change Ministers meeting Speech: Sustainable Land Management and Climate Change Launch
Thursday 6 September	Ministerial meeting on the National Risk Register Report Business NZ - discussion on the ZCB
Friday 7 September	Meeting with the Major Electricity Users' Group (MEUG) re Productivity Commission draft report and Interim Climate Change Commission Meeting with the new Chief Science Advisor
Monday 10 September	MFE Officials Meeting MFAT Officials
Tuesday 11 → Friday 14 September	Global Climate Summit, San Francisco

1. Key decisions for you to make this week

- 1.1. **Begin Ministerial consultation on the Zero Carbon Bill**
- 1.2. **Climate Change Ministers meeting - seeking decision on high level policy direction for ZCB**

2. Material for you to be aware of this week

Domestic

2.1. NZ ETS consultation

Consultation meetings started on Friday 31st August in Wellington on improvements to the New Zealand Emissions Trading Scheme. Over the next two weeks meetings will be held in Auckland, Rotorua, Christchurch, Dunedin, Whangarei, Napier, Gisborne, New Plymouth and Nelson. Over 480 registrations have been received, with approximately 90 expected to attend the Wellington meeting. Submissions close on 21st September

2.2. Z Energy purchases 70 percent of electricity retailer, Flick Electric

Z Energy have acquired a 70 per cent shareholding in Flick Electric for \$46 million. The Wellington based retail electricity supplier was the first power company in the country to offer customers access to the wholesale price of electricity.

Z Energy as New Zealand's largest transport energy company considers electricity will be one of the main fuels of the future. Z Energy have already acquired a 12 percent shareholding in Wellington-based electric car-sharing start-up, Mevo.

Z Energy have publicly supported the Zero Carbon Bill and these investments indicate that they are looking to adapt their business to be more compatible with a lower carbon energy future.

International

2.3. Affordable Clean Energy (ACE) Rule

The US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) released the [Affordable Clean Energy \(ACE\) rule](#) on 21 August 2018. The ACE rule is the proposed replacement to Obama's "Clean Power Plan" regulation aimed at curbing greenhouse gas emissions from existing US power plants. The ACE rule moves away from Obama's administration efforts to hasten transition from coal to other sources of energy, and instead focuses on making existing coal-fired plants more efficient.

The ACE rule calls for states to make existing coal-fired plants more efficient, providing emission guidelines for states to develop their own plans to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from these plants and also an opportunity to 'opt-out' from creating any new rules if they have a satisfactory explanation as to why they do not need to take action.

Based on the EPA's impact analysis, the ACE rule is weaker, and will result in lower emissions reductions, with a reduction in carbon dioxide emissions of between 0.7% and 1.5%, by 2030 - or the equivalent of taking 2.7 million-5.3 million cars off the road. This compares with the Clean Power Plan's projected approximately 19% reduction in emissions during the same timeframe, or the equivalent of taking 75 million cars off out of circulation and preventing more than 365 million metric tonnes of carbon dioxide from entering the atmosphere.

Rather than regulation of the entire energy sector – as proposed by the Clean Power Plan- the ACE rule focuses on coal plants, promoting investments to make coal cleaner, modern and more efficient and divests power to each state to set its own standards, rather than a single federal standard.

While the ACE rule is predicted to be finalised in early 2019, implementation will be determined by EPA approval of each state's plan to reduce emissions from coal plants, with further delay expected due to legal challenges by environmental and other interested groups.

2.4. Australia's leadership change – implications for climate and energy policy

s9(2)(g)(i)

s9(2)(g)(i)

. Media reports indicate that Morrison's government remains committed to the Paris Agreement; s9(2)(g)(i)

The High Commission in Canberra will report in the coming days on the delineation between energy and environment portfolios (newly split under Morrison's ministry), as well as the likely direction of travel on climate and energy policy under Morrison's leadership. In the meantime we have briefed the Prime Minister ahead of her engagements at the Pacific Islands Forum in Nauru (3-6 September), s9(2)(g) . Media lines provided to the Prime Minister(i) include the following key points:

- We look forward to working with Australia's new leadership closely on a range of issues, including climate change, as our two countries have always done. It is too soon to comment on the detail of Australian climate policy under Prime Minister Morrison, but we look forward to engaging on that in due course.
- Australia is a major player in the Pacific. It provides 40% of the region's annual aid flows – some A\$1 billion per year. Australia's engagement in the Pacific is vital to the region's ongoing well-being and stability, including its ability to respond to the impacts of climate change. New Zealand will continue to work with Australia as a fellow Pacific country to that end.

2.5. Climate change and security – an international role for New Zealand?

MFAT has been considering New Zealand's role in the UN system as regards climate change and security. As President of the UN Security Council during our time on the Council in 2015-16, we held an open debate on peace and security challenges facing Small Island Developing States, in which climate change was a key theme. A UN Security Council meeting on climate change this July confirmed, via an intervention from the Nauruan President, that Pacific SIDS remain very much focussed on climate change on the root causes of conflict, including food security and water resources. MFAT has confirmed that New Zealand should support Pacific SIDS' proposal for a UN Special Representative on climate and security. This is consistent with New Zealand's 2018 Strategic Defence Policy Statement, which recognised climate change as a "complex disruptor" impacting human security. Further consideration is being given to New Zealand adopting climate and security as a broader thematic focus for our multilateral engagement.

2.6. Spotlight on Doha Amendment to the Kyoto Protocol at the UN General Assembly

The United Nations Secretary General will highlight the Kyoto Protocol's Doha Amendment for signature at the annual Treaty event to be held in the margins of the UN General Assembly in September. The Doha Amendment establishes the second commitment period (2013-2020) of the Kyoto Protocol, and has still not entered into force given the insufficient number of Parties having ratified it (114 have ratified out of the 144 required). Given the scrutiny of pre-2020 commitments by developed country parties in the international climate change negotiations, it is important that developing countries have the reassurance that pre-2020 commitments are being adhered to secure an effective Paris Agreement outcome at COP24. In order to support its own COP24 Presidency and demonstrate its pre-2020 climate action, Poland has announced it intends to deposit its instrument of ratification the Treaty event. As the EU's ratification is already complete and counted, Poland's ratification will bring the total to only 115. Entry into force at or ahead of COP24 remains highly uncertain.

2.7. New Zealand support for Pacific Climate Change Centre

The Minister of Foreign Affairs is expected to announce a contribution of \$NZ3 million to the Pacific Climate Change Centre at the Pacific Islands Forum, 3 – 6 September. This will be a joint announcement with Japan whose Japan International Cooperation Agency is funding the infrastructure for the centre, with NZ funding to support human resource and capacity building. The Centre will be hosted on the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) campus in Apia, Samoa. It is intended to be a "shared regional asset belonging to the people of the Pacific" and a "globally respected Centre of Excellence, providing information, support and training to address the adaptation and mitigation priorities of Pacific communities." Its four functions will be knowledge brokerage; applied research; capacity building through training and learning; and innovation. Ground-breaking on the building site took place in early May 2018.

2.8. Resignation of French Environment Minister Nicolas Hulot

Nicolas Hulot, France's environment minister, resigned from government on 29 August 2018, citing he had felt "all alone" on environmental issues, as the government had failed to prioritise environmental issues. Hulot, the third highest ranked Cabinet Minister, was appointed in May 2017 and had previously enjoyed a popular public profile as a TV presenter and an environmental campaigner. Hulot had also led the FNH (Fondation Nicolas Hulot), an NGO which has lead the opposition domestically against EU free-trade agreements (in particular with the US, Canada and Mercosur) due to concerns over the impact of trade agreements on environmental policy and perceived incompatibility with the Paris Agreement. Hulot's high ambitions to transform France into a low carbon economy, appear to have been frustrated by a number of setbacks including phasing-out of the use of the pesticide glyphosate in farming

s6(a)

s9(2)(ba)(i)

. It is anticipated that France's domestic and international approach to environmental issues or France's leadership on climate change will remain unchanged and we do not see any immediate implications for New Zealand's interests.

2.9. Climate Change: Visit by the Environment Select Committee to Brussels

The Environment Select Committee visited Brussels on 16-17 July, to learn about the EU's approach to fighting climate change and in particular the EU's emissions trading scheme (ETS). The visit included

broad-ranging discussions with senior climate change contacts that covered issues including the politics of transition and the EU's approach to mobilising finance, adaptation and emissions from agriculture. The visit was useful to demonstrate that there is cross party-support in New Zealand for an ambitious approach to climate change and that we see the EU as a key partner for New Zealand. On a number of occasions the Select Committee referred to joint New Zealand-EU work on renewable energy projects in the Pacific and our willingness to work with the EU on international climate change solutions, supporting the narrative that New Zealand is a useful partner for the EU. It is hoped that future parliamentary visits can be timed to allow engagement with the European Parliament

2.10. Carbon Neutrality Coalition

Following an invitation from the Minister for Climate Change, Canada is inquiring about the possibility of joining the Coalition. Its concern was the type of commitment and, therefore, whether Cabinet approval would be required. Our advice was that the commitments are voluntary and the primary focus is on the development of long-term low emissions development strategies (LT-LEDS). Canada has not yet joined the Coalition but is giving it serious consideration and we are pushing for them to join in time for it to be announced at the inaugural high-level meeting of the Carbon Neutrality Coalition at the UN on 27 September, being hosted by Prime Minister Ardern.

2.11. Carbon neutrality targets and long-term strategies

We have tasked Posts with identifying countries with targets for achieving carbon neutrality. At the same time, New Zealand is participating in an informal group of officials developing long-term low emissions development strategies (LT-LEDS). At a recent teleconference, it became clear that other countries do have, or are in the process of developing, such goals.

Examples include: Iceland aims to be carbon neutral by 2040; the Netherlands is actively considering a target of 95% emissions reduction by 2050; France is developing its net zero emissions goal; and the EU's roadmap to get to 80% below 1990 levels by 2050 is currently being reviewed and ambition is likely to be raised, possibly to net zero. A database of other countries' objectives is being compiled.

3. Upcoming key events/announcements that MfE/MFAT are involved in

Issue or event	Timing
NZ ETS consultation meetings	31 August – 14 September
Productivity Commission report publicly released	4 September
Environment Institute of Australia and New Zealand Annual Symposium: Preparing for a low emissions future	14 September

4. Upcoming briefings

Papers for your 07 September bag

Issue or event	Lead	Further information
Draft MfE annual report 2017/18 for your information	MfE	Draft MfE annual report supplied for your information and any feedback.
Summary of ZCB submissions	MfE	Final version for your approval for release
NZ ETS Industrial Allocation: Approval of call for data on petroleum refining	MfE	This briefing attaches a call for data Gazette notice on the industrial activity of refining petroleum. Data provided in response will enable decisions on eligibility and related matters for allocation of emissions units for this activity from the start of 2023. Before issuing the notice, you must consider on the adequacy of consultation to date and the definition of the activity, as detailed in the briefing.
Refrigerated Shipping Containers and the NZ ETS	MfE	Recommends a policy approach to addressing the application of NZ ETS costs to movements of refrigerated shipping containers and the synthetic greenhouse gases used to service them.

5. Cabinet material being prepared for you

Paper name	Committee	What this paper covers	Our suggested timeframes
Climate change: NZ's international leadership	ERS or ENV (tbc)	Seeks agreement on how the international climate change work programme will deliver on the Government's aspiration for global leadership on climate change	Lodge mid Sept (TBC) ERS or ENV mid Sept (TBC) Cabinet end Sept (TBC)
Zero Carbon Bill	DEV	Policy decisions and report back on consultation	Lodge 13 Sept DEV 19 Sept Cabinet 24 Sept
NZ ETS forestry technical regulation improvements (MPI lead)	ENV	Report back from consultation and approval for drafting amendments	11 Sept
NZ ETS Section 60 exemptions (MPI lead)	LEG	Amendment regulations for two exemptions for specific areas of heritage and Maori freehold land	20-Sept
NZ ETS forestry section 60 exemptions 'go fast' policy paper (MPI lead)	ENV	Proposal for a 'go fast' process for responding to requests for forestry exemptions	TBC
Zero Carbon Bill	LEG	Presentation of draft amendment Bill	29-Nov
NZ ETS forestry technical regulation improvements (MPI lead)	LEG	Presentation of draft amendment regulations	29 Nov
NZ ETS improvements - report back from consultation	TBC	Report back from consultation and approval for drafting amendment Bill	Dec (TBC)

6. Cabinet material we have been consulted on

Paper name	Agency	Committee	Our advice on the paper
Release of an Issues Paper on Process Heat in New Zealand	Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment and the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Authority	Environment, Energy and Climate Committee	<p>We provided feedback on New Zealand Emission Trading Scheme implications and air quality regulations relating to industrial heat using biomass/wood.</p> <p>The Minister of Energy and Resources is seeking approval to publicly release its issues paper on Process Heat in New Zealand: Barriers to lowering emissions. The paper aims to inform the development of a government action plan for improving energy efficiency and reducing emissions associated with process heat.</p> <p>Process heat accounts for approximately nine per cent of New Zealand's gross greenhouse gas emissions - 60 per cent of process heat is supplied using fossil fuels, mainly coal and gas. With a highly renewable electricity sector, our biggest opportunities for further emissions reduction in energy lie in - transport and process heat.</p> <p>We consider that there are minimal risks since no policy options are being proposed at this point. MBIE intends to seek Cabinet approval to release a draft action plan for public consultation in early 2019.</p> <p><i>Agree with the recommendation to release the issues paper for public consultation.</i></p>

7. OIA requests

7.1. Ministerial*

Request	Correspondent	Organisation	Reference	Drafting agency	Due at your office/current status	Date due to send
All advice, briefings and correspondence with councils and Local Government New Zealand about the Coastal Hazards and Climate Change guidance published in December last year (https://www.beehive.govt.nz/release/climate-change-risks-and-adaptation). The time period of my request is December 15 last year, the date the guidance was published, and today's date. This information is in the public interest because it involves important planning guidance for councils, but it also shows what it is that councils and LGNZ are saying to the minister's office about the published guidance.	s 9(2)(a)	Newsroom	18-O-01626	Ministry for the Environment	Mon, 3 Sep	Mon, 10 Sep
Joint Aide Memoire: ""The ETS Fixed Price Option - 19 July; 'Climate teams', a potential cooperative approach for international carbon markets - 27 July; International Carbon Markets Project – 2018-2019 - 5 July Memo: Technical information about New Zealand's pre-2021 access to international carbon markets - 6 July; Options for consultation on industrial allocation - 6 July The role of methane in mitigating climate change - 26 June	s 9(2)(a)	National Party	18-O-01816	Ministry for the Environment	Thu, 6 Sep	Wed, 12 Sep
Call for the provision of electricity related contracts (aluminium smelting) notice 2018 -Thu, 12 July; Proposed climate change work programme on agriculture - Fri, 20 July;	s 9(2)(a)	National Party	18-O-01817	Ministry for the Environment	Thu, 6 Sep	Wed, 12 Sep
• Meeting with the Petroleum Exploration and Production Association of New Zealand (PEPANZ) on Monday July 2 2018.	s 9(2)(a)	National Party	18-O-01818	Ministry for the Environment	Thu, 6 Sep	Thu, 13 Sep
• "Improvements to the NZ Emissions Trading Scheme Slide Pack"" - 11 July; " • "Meeting Brief: Ann Smith and Steve Dixon, Enviro-Mark	s 9(2)(a)	National Party	18-O-01819	Ministry for the Environment	Thu, 6 Sep	Thu, 13 Sep

[COMMERCIAL IN-CONFIDENCE]

Request	Correspondent	Organisation	Reference	Drafting agency	Due at your office/current status	Date due to send
Solutions (18 July)"" - 12 July; " <ul style="list-style-type: none"> "Climate Change ETS Forestry Package Cabinet paper and supporting materials for Ministerial consultation"" - 12 July; 						
Zero Carbon Bill runsheet for Greymouth - Fri, 29 June 2018 Can I also please have a copy of the Minister's Outlook diary between 2nd July 2018 and 9th July 2018, and any briefing documents that were prepared for the Minister in the lead up to the Zero Carbon Bill public meeting in Greymouth on 2nd July 2018.	s 9(2)(a)	National Party	18-O-01820	Ministry for the Environment	Thu, 6 Sep	Thu, 13 Sep
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> the possible effects or effectiveness of the possible Zero Carbon Act of the possible inclusion of allowing Emissions Reductions Units, or other internationally tradeable carbon offsets, established under the Kyoto Protocol or otherwise, to count towards Aotearoa New Zealand's possible short, medium and long term goals established in the possible Zero Carbon Act or goal setting tools established in that Act, and, the current drafting of the Zero Carbon Act in regards to Emissions Reductions Units or other internationally tradeable carbon offsets or units established under the Kyoto Protocol or otherwise. 	s 9(2)(a)		18-O-01844	Ministry for the Environment	Mon, 10 Sep	Mon, 17 Sep

7.2. Ministry for the Environment OIAs

Request	Correspondent	Organisation	Reference	Date due to send
<p>"Please provide the various drafts of the Consultation paper "Ministry for the Environment. 2018. Our Climate Your Say: Consultation on the Zero Carbon Bill. Wellington: Ministry for the Environment."</p> <p>In addition I would like to know where the initial draft came from, any instructions to the Chief Executive, officials or draftspersons and discussions, notes of meetings and correspondence with external (to the department) parties (including other officials) in regards to its content. I am particularly interested to see information that rationalises the somewhat alarmist claims that have already been subject to the OIA (summarised below) and the information contained in an earlier document published by MfE known as: "Our atmosphere and climate 2017 DATA TO 2016" (attached) that is somewhat more measured in its analysis (see attached synthesis)."</p>	s 9(2)(a)	Spinletop Law	18-D-01568	Fri, 3 Aug
<p>Can I please have any information received or produced that considers spatial land use change information produced by the LURNZ model during the process of modelling potential land use change under various scenarios for a 2050 greenhouse gas emissions reduction target?</p> <p>Can I also please have a copy of any internal memos, reports or other documents that discuss precisely where land use change is either modelled to occur or anticipated to occur in order to achieve various proposed greenhouse emissions reduction targets for 2050. This request is specifically in relation to various government reports and discussion documents recently released that indicate a zero emissions target by 2050 is possible but will require extensive afforestation. I am interested to understand where this afforestation is likely to occur.</p>	s 9(2)(a)	National Party	18-D-01721	Mon, 17 Sep
<p>I have a request for official information under the Official Information Act regarding the OECD public The economic consequences of climate change:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Any advice or briefings you gave to ministers on the 2015 OECD report The economic consequences of climate change; • Any communication with the 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. 	s 9(2)(a)		18-D-01684	Thu, 6 Sep
<p>1. Under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act), we request all information (together with copies of any supporting documentation) held by the Ministry for the Environment with regard to proposals developed in 2017 for third parties to plant on Crown owned or government land. This includes:</p> <p>(a) Any material prepared and received by officials in relation to these proposals;</p>	s 9(2)(a)	Simpson Grierson	18-D-01809	Tue, 11 Sep

[COMMERCIAL IN-CONFIDENCE]

Request	Correspondent	Organisation	Reference	Date due to send
<p>(b) Any briefings, advice, assessments or correspondence provided to the current and previous Ministers for the Environment on these proposals;</p> <p>(c) Any evaluations or reports prepared or held by the Ministry on the government land subject to the proposals;</p> <p>(d) Details of any meetings to discuss these proposals including dates, agendas, briefings and names of those in attendance.</p> <p>2. We understand that there was a Cabinet paper prepared on the proposals at the end of 2017 and that the proposals have not progressed further since then. We request a copy of this Cabinet paper.</p> <p>3. We recognise that there may be some limited sensitive commercial information associated with the material requested and accept that some details may need to be withheld, for example on tender pricing. We note however that disclosure of the majority of this information, including the commercial entities involved, does not result in unreasonable prejudice to the commercial positions of the parties under s 9(2)(b)(ii) because no strategic information, such as pricing, will be revealed.</p> <p>4. Relevant to any consideration of the public interest, we note that the Ombudsman has emphasised in his guidance on commercial information under the Act that the disclosure of tender information is in the public interest, to uphold the transparency and integrity of public sector tendering processes.</p>				
<p>all documents provided to Minister's offices which contain advice or information related to a possible decision for New Zealand adopt a split gases approach (e.g. treating methane different to carbon dioxide) to a 2050 or 2030 climate change target.</p> <p>I would also like to request, under the OIA, a copy of all documents provided to Minister's offices which contain advice or information related to any potential changes to New Zealand's Nationally Determined Contribution to the Paris Agreement. This includes a potential submission of an update to New Zealand's contribution, as requested by UNFCCC decision 1/CP.21.</p> <p>To narrow the scope this OIA can be interpreted to include all documents since the 1st of October 2017.</p>	s 9(2)(a)	National Party	18-D-01859	Fri, 21 Sep



Weekly update - Minister for Climate Change

Finalised on 7 September for the week commencing 10 September

Date: 10 September
Time: 1.45 - 3.45 pm
Location: Office of the Minister for Climate Change

Attendees: Hon James Shaw, Minister for Climate Change
Vicky Robertson, Chief Executive, Ministry for the Environment
Cheryl Barnes, Deputy Secretary, Water & Climate Change
Roger Lincoln, Director, Climate Change
Janine Smith, Acting Director, Climate Change Policy
Bridget Fraser, Manager, Climate Change Policy
Sue-Ellen Fenelon, Acting Manager, Climate Change Policy
Paul Alexander Director Transition Hub
Mark Storey, Manager, Climate Change Policy
Jeremy Corban, Acting Chief Advisor, Climate Change
For item 3 – James Walker, Deputy Secretary
– Jack Bisset, Senior Analyst, Climate Change Policy
For item 5 – Ngaio Neumegen, Senior Analyst, Climate Change Policy

	Agenda	Lead	Time
1	Context	Cheryl Barnes	10 mins
2	Zero Carbon Bill <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Targets option one-pager- Ministerial Consultation	Janine Smith	75 mins
3	Climate finance workstreams <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Sustainable Wealth Initiative- Sustainable finance	James Walker and Jack Bisset	10 mins
4	s9(2)(f)(iv)	Sue-Ellen Fenelon	10 mins
5	Outcomes from BERG governance meeting	Mark Storey	5 mins
6	Productivity Commission <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Proposed response approach	Paul Alexander	10 mins

Upcoming meetings 10 September - 24 September

Monday 10 September	Tax Working Group Secretariat presentation on the environmental tax section of the TWG initial report MFE officials meeting MFAT officials meeting
Tuesday 11 September	Meeting with Hon Peters and Hon Jones to discuss the ZCB
Tuesday 11 - Friday 14 September	Global Climate Summit, San Francisco
Monday 17 September	MFE officials meeting MFAT officials
Tuesday 18 September	Meeting with Wendy McGuinness (Climate Change reporting) Todd Muller
Wednesday 19 September	SPEECH: Beehive to Business - Wellington Chamber of Commerce Meeting with the Interim Climate Change Committee
Thursday 20 September	Meeting with David Pine, Chair of the Trade for All Advisory Board (tbc) Meeting with BERG's Governance Group (tbc) Cabinet Legislation Committee meeting (NZ ETS regulations updates paper)

1. Key decisions for you to make this week

Lodge NZ ETS regulations updates Cabinet LEG Committee paper on Thursday

2. Material for you to be aware of this week

Domestic

2.1. NZ ETS Consultation

Consultation meetings are now underway on improvements to the New Zealand Emissions Trading Scheme (NZ ETS). There have been 5 meetings held so far (Wellington, Auckland, Rotorua, Christchurch and Dunedin) with a total audience of approximately 350 stakeholders.

Overall:

- The proposals have been generally well received, with robust discussion and questions from stakeholders.
- There have been a range of questions focused on technical details including how unit supply decisions will be made. Stakeholders have emphasised the need to ensure regulatory predictability in making these decisions.

- A key theme of the meetings has been communicating and discussion with stakeholders the distinctions choices relating to New Zealand's climate change targets and the NZ ETS.
- We have been clear that this consultation is focused on setting up a framework so that the NZ ETS can be used to help meeting our climate change targets.

Further meetings are scheduled for the week beginning 10th September in Whangarei, Napier, Gisborne, New Plymouth and Nelson. In total, approximately 530 people have either attended or are registered to attend a stakeholder meeting. Submissions close on 21st September.

2.2. WWF – Earth Hour 2019

WWF CE Livia Esterhazy approached MfE to inform us about their intention to re-establish Earth Hour in New Zealand in 2019. New Zealand is the first (non-Pacific Island) country to switch-off. Earth Hour 2019 will take place at 8.30pm on Saturday 30 March 2019.

The theme for 2019 is climate change and sustainable living. This timing will likely be during the parliamentary process for the Zero Carbon Bill.

WWF will be appointing an advertising agency to run a campaign in New Zealand. They are approaching corporate NZ for support, e.g. Sky City has expressed interest.

They are looking for (non-financial) support from MfE and Ministers. This could look like: media, social media, 'switching off the lights on the Beehive'.

As Minister for Climate Change you may want to provide your in-principle support to working with WWF to promote Earth Hour, depending on their plans and resources, and use the opportunity to have a further environmental conversation with New Zealand.

Would you like us to express interest in the campaign to WWF and work with your office on how you might support the campaign, depending on how it emerges?

YES / NO

2.3. Tax Working Group Environmental taxes presentation

You, and other Ministers interested in environmental issues have been invited to a presentation on Monday 10 September by the Tax Working Group (TWG) Secretariat.

This presentation will provide a summary of the key draft findings of the TWG on environmental taxes. It provides a new framework for considering proposed environmental taxes, specific taxes to be considered in the short- and medium-term, some areas for longer-term work, tax concessions, and the use of tax revenue. Specific environmental issues that the paper covers include waste, greenhouse gasses, congestion, water takes and water pollution.

The draft report is scheduled to be discussed at Cabinet on Monday 17 September before being publicly released. The final report is due in February 2019. Ministry officials have been working with the TWG Secretariat and Steering Group, and are happy to meet with you or provide you with further comment on any of the issues raised in the presentation.

2.4. MfE has recently agreed and implemented its Sustainability Strategy.

This strategy lays out how MfE is taking action to ensure we operate our organisation in a sustainable way; by being an awesome place to work, leading by example, being a strong voice for the

environment and being financially fit so we can achieve our outcomes. We recognise that we are behind a number of corporates in New Zealand, and we need to re-establish ourselves as sustainability leaders in the public service. This is important step forwards for both our MfE team and our stakeholders. This strategy compliments our wider organisational strategy and work programme and builds upon what we do ourselves as an organisation. The strategy is accompanied by our Sustainability Commitment and Environmental Commitment that set our vision for how we manage our organisation's sustainability and an action plan to ensure we deliver on our targets by July 2020 (and beyond). One target within the strategy is to measure and report our carbon footprint and have it externally verified. We have just finalised our emissions inventory and had it externally certified under the CEMARS (Certified Emissions Management and Reduction Scheme) through EnviroMark. EECA is the only other central Government agency to have this certification. We plan to share our carbon footprint on our website as soon as the certification is finalised (in the next few weeks), alongside our strategy. We have shared our experience and offered help to other agencies who also wish to undertake certification. A notable improvement in our footprint has been our investment in Environment House with a more open layout, more energy efficient lighting, and laptops post the 2016 earthquakes. This has seen our annual energy spend decrease significantly.

Beyond MfE, the Ministry of Defence along with MfE convened an All of Government Sustainability Group that had its inaugural meeting on the 15th of August with representatives from MBIE, EECA, EPA, BOPDHB and MoT attending. Representatives from Corrections, Housing NZ and MPI were also scheduled to attend. The group discussed what agencies are currently doing (MfE appears to be leading) and how we can support one another through sharing intel and products. We also discussed sustainable procurement and how we could better support and drive this, which is being led out of MBIE.

Please find attached as an appendix to this update our Sustainability Strategy, along with our Environmental and Sustainability Commitments. Please contact James Walker (Deputy Secretary Partnerships and Customers) if you would like to know more.

2.5. Sustainable dairy farming

As part of the Ministry's partnership programme, Ministry staff recently met with key agricultural sector stakeholders who are demonstrating ambition around sustainable dairy farming (water and climate). Our ambition is to support and showcase industry leaders, to help others realise what can be achieved. We provide you an update as Minister for the Environment, and an opportunity to visit Halter. We are also copying this to Minister for Climate Change, and Associate Minister Mahuta, given their portfolio interest.

Synlait, a New Zealand dairy processing company, has set bold sustainability targets including that their suppliers (representing approximately 3% national milk production) achieve a 35 percent reduction of on-farm greenhouse gas emissions by 2028. This target will be mostly be met by implementing best practice farming across their suppliers. The company is also looking to introduce a commercial feed additive which reduces methane in the digestive tract (produced by a DSM, Dutch science-based company active in health, nutrition and materials). Synlait is hopeful this will reduce methane emissions by around 30%. s9(2)(ba)(i)

s9(2)(ba)(i)

. This action represents a strong counter-narrative to the view that there are no technology improvements options on the horizon for farmers to reduce emissions. Ministry staff are working with Synlait to showcase their story and help draw connections across the agricultural sector to potential solutions to methane gas reductions.

Halter, an agri-tech start up, aims to innovate dairy farming practices in New Zealand. Their core product is a vibrating 'collar' device, which is used to remotely shift and track cow movements around the farm. Through training, this allows farmers to establish virtual boundaries which can keep cows out of waterways as well as improve labour efficiency, increase milk production and improve cow welfare by tracking health indicators. s9(2)(ba)(i)

The company which has global investor funding (e.g. Peter Beck and Peter Thiel), received some funding from Callaghan Innovation. Ministry officials are working to advise on whether there are other appropriate funding schemes that the company could apply to through MPI to continue to develop the sustainability aspects of their product. Progression of this technology and any Government funding would need to fully consider any animal welfare risks, social license and legislation. We understand there are other companies investing in similar technologies as well, e.g. s9(2)(ba)(i)

This work is in a pilot stage with staged roll out to commence in 2019. They have a list of pre-orders valuing s9(2)(ba)(i) The venture offers an example of innovative product design being applied to the agricultural sector with the potential to minimise environmental impacts, with particular implications for water quality.

Miraka, Miraka is a Maori-owned dairy company based in the Central North Island. They are small (100 or so suppliers) and use only (renewable) geothermal energy to power their processing sites. They are in year two of bringing in a positive incentives programme aimed at lifting their sustainability performance. They are already seeing great results, including an increase in the number of farms recycling baggage wrap from 16% to 67%. They have a group of thirteen core 'sustainability' measures (including labour, stock exclusion) that earns the farmer 20c/kgMS extra in their pay-out. All standards must be met to earn this extra pay-out. Then they have an extra 17 recognised standards, each worth an additional 1/2c. These include things like effluent storage, which are set to a much higher standard than councils require. The Ministry will look to visit Miraka in due course.

If you require further information please ask James Walker, Deputy Secretary Partnerships and Customers.

International

2.6. Approval for training on the Carbon Offsetting and Reduction Scheme for International Aviation (CORSIA)

The PACollaborate approval panel has approved an application from Ministry of Transport to support capacity building from Fiji, Samoa, Solomon Islands and Vanuatu on the Carbon Offsetting and Reduction Scheme for International Aviation (CORSIA). The training is intended to assist these countries in meeting mandatory standards set by the International Civil Aviation Organization on carbon offsetting and reduction. The outreach contributes to the Government's Pacific Reset objectives and enhances New Zealand's reputation with the International Civil Aviation Organization. It is anticipated that the training will be delivered September to November this year in-country (Samoa, Solomon Islands, Fiji and Vanuatu).

2.8 Update on COP24 and the pre-COP

Poland is using the meeting in Bangkok to engage with Parties on planning for the COP and pre-COP. These include compressing the original leaders session to a single day on 3 December dedicated

to inspiring completion of the Paris Agreement work programme and adoption of a Just Transition Declaration. The week 2 High Level (ministerial) Segment will see through the COP's mandated political events: the Talanoa Dialogue, biennial High Level Climate Finance meeting; and Global Climate Action Agenda as well as 2 further declarations (on just transition, forests and electro-mobility). Planning for securing the final deal is evidently still in development, though a Climate Ambassador has been appointed to shepherd the process through. The Poles will be looking to convene a council of former COP presidencies, to further add political heft towards an outcome, and are being encouraged by others to bring in ministers to facilitate. The 22-24 October pre-COP will comprise a day and a half of ministerial deliberation on the tricky negotiation issues that emerge from Bangkok, as well as engagement with business leaders.

The Bureau meeting on 5 September made a formal decision to launch the technical work of the COP by holding the opening sessions on Sunday 2 December. This will limit the time lost to the Leaders' event on 3 December to a single day. s6(a) & s9(2)(ba)(i)



2.9 Pacific Island Forum 3-6 September

A new regional security declaration, Boe ("boy") Declaration, was endorsed by Pacific Islands Forum Leaders in Nauru on Wednesday 5 September. The declaration, which builds on the Biketawa Declaration signed in 2000, recognises an expanded concept of security. This includes human security (including humanitarian assistance), environmental and resource security, transnational crime, and cyber security. In endorsing the declaration, Leaders reaffirmed that climate change remains the single greatest threat to the livelihoods, security and wellbeing of the peoples of the Pacific and their commitment to progress the implementation of the Paris Agreement.

3. Upcoming key events/announcements that MfE/MFAT are involved in

Issue or event	Timing
Environment Institute of Australia and New Zealand Annual Symposium: Preparing for a low emissions future	14 September
Carbon Neutrality Coalition inaugural high-level meeting	27 September 2018
COP24 Sustainable Agriculture and Climate Change Event The Minister of Agriculture has agreed to attend. Five countries have confirmed their involvement in the event (Ireland, France, Canada, Australia and the Netherlands). MFAT and MPI are working closely with Ireland France Canada Australia and the Netherlands, each of whom have confirmed they will lead a session in our event.	10 – 12 December, Katowice, Poland

4. Upcoming briefings

Papers for your 14 September bag

Issue or event	Lead	Further information
Draft annual report 2017/18 for your information	MfE	Draft annual report supplied for your information and any feedback.
Advice on hedging the 2030 target	MfE	You have requested further advice on OMF's proposal to hedge the 2030 target

Papers for your 21 September bag

Issue or event	Lead	Further information
Report back on a response to the Climate Change Adaptation Technical Working Group recommendations report	MfE	This briefing provides our recommended approach to responding to the CCATWG recommendations report

5. Cabinet material being prepared for you

Paper name	Committee	What this paper covers	Our suggested timeframes
NZ ETS forestry technical regulation improvements (MPI lead)	ENV	Report back from consultation and approval for drafting amendments	11 Sept
Zero Carbon Bill	DEV	Policy decisions and report back on consultation	Lodge 20 Sept ENV 25 Sept Cabinet 8 Oct
NZ ETS appropriations	DEV/ENV	Changes to NZ ETS appropriations are required as the price rises above the FPO	TBC
NZ ETS forestry section 60 exemptions 'go fast' policy paper (MPI lead)	ENV	Proposal for a 'go fast' process for responding to requests for forestry exemptions	TBC
International dimensions of leadership on climate change	ENV or ERS	Alignment of foreign, trade, development and climate change policy	Aiming now for Cab committee meeting 30 October
Zero Carbon Bill	LEG	Presentation of draft amendment Bill	29-Nov
NZ ETS forestry technical regulation improvements (MPI lead)	LEG	Presentation of draft amendment regulations	29 Nov
NZ ETS improvements - report back from consultation	TBC	Report back from consultation and approval for drafting amendment Bill	Dec (TBC)

6. OIA requests

6.1. Ministerial*

Request	Correspondent	Organisation	Reference	Drafting agency	At your office/current status	Date due to send
<p>Can your office please release the following information: All advice, briefings and correspondence with councils and Local Government New Zealand about the Coastal Hazards and Climate Change guidance published in December last year (https://www.beehive.govt.nz/release/climate-change-risks-and-adaptation). The time period of my request is December 15 last year, the date the guidance was published, and today's date. This information is in the public interest because it involves important planning guidance for councils, but it also shows what it is that councils and LGNZ are saying to the minister's office about the published guidance.</p>	s 9(2)(a)	Newsroom	OIA122	MfE	6-Sep-18	10-Sep-18
<p>I am requesting the below documents under the Official Information Act. Joint Aide Memoire: ""The ETS Fixed Price Option - 19 July; 'Climate teams', a potential cooperative approach for international carbon markets - 27 July; International Carbon Markets Project – 2018-2019 - 5 July Memo: Technical information about New Zealand's pre-2021 access to international carbon markets - 6 July;</p>	s 9(2)(a)	National Party	OIA129	MfE	6-Sep-18	12-Sep-18

[COMMERCIAL IN-CONFIDENCE]

Request	Correspondent	Organisation	Reference	Drafting agency	At your office/current status	Date due to send
Options for consultation on industrial allocation - 6 July The role of methane in mitigating climate change - 26 June						
Can I please request the following documents under the Official Information Act? Call for the provision of electricity related contracts (aluminium smelting) notice 2018 -Thu, 12 July; Proposed climate change work programme on agriculture - Fri, 20 July;	s 9(2)(a)	National Party	OIA130	MfE	6-Sep-18	12-Sep-18
Please supply the following information under the Official Information Act (OIA): • A copy of the Climate Action Pacific Partnership, Suva, Fiji 25-27 July 2018 • A copy of Climate Change and the Pacific: Request for interview for MFAT-sponsored documentary film – Briefing"" - 6 July • A copy of Climate Change: Further Support for Fiji's Presidency of the Twenty Third Conference of Parties to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP23)"" , 14 June;	s 9(2)(a)	National Party	OIA131	MfE	6-Sep-18	13-Sep-18
I'm requesting the following document under OIA Act 1982. • Meeting with the Petroleum Exploration and Production Association of New Zealand (PEPANZ) on Monday July 2 2018.	s 9(2)(a)	National Party	OIA132	MfE	6-Sep-18	13-Sep-18
Under the Official Information Act I request a copy of the following documents: • "Improvements to the NZ Emissions Trading Scheme Slide Pack"" - 11 July; " • "Meeting Brief: Ann Smith and Steve Dixon, Enviro-	s 9(2)(a)	National Party	OIA133	MfE	6-Sep-18 (extension being processed – new due date tbc)	13-Sep-18

[COMMERCIAL IN-CONFIDENCE]

Request	Correspondent	Organisation	Reference	Drafting agency	At your office/current status	Date due to send
<p>Mark Solutions (18 July)"" - 12 July; "</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> "Climate Change ETS Forestry Package Cabinet paper and supporting materials for Ministerial consultation"" - 12 July; 						
<p>I'm requesting the official document below under the Official Information Act.</p> <p>Zero Carbon Bill runsheet for Greymouth - Fri, 29 June 2018</p> <p>Can I also please have a copy of the Minister's Outlook diary between 2nd July 2018 and 9th July 2018, and any briefing documents that were prepared for the Minister in the lead up to the Zero Carbon Bill public meeting in Greymouth on 2nd July 2018.</p>	s 9(2)(a)	National Party	OIA135	MfE	6-Sep-18	13-Sep-18
<p>I am researching the probable effectiveness of the Zero Carbon Act for coursework at the Victoria University Faculty of Law. I am asking for information under the Official Information Act. I am hoping to get the information that your office holds on,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the possible effects or effectiveness of the possible Zero Carbon Act of the possible inclusion of allowing Emissions Reductions Units, or other internationally tradeable carbon offsets, established under the Kyoto Protocol or otherwise, to count towards Aotearoa New Zealand's possible short, medium and long term goals established in the possible Zero Carbon Act or goal setting tools established in that Act, and, the current drafting of the Zero Carbon Act in regards to Emissions Reductions Units or other internationally tradeable carbon offsets or units established under the Kyoto Protocol or otherwise. 	s 9(2)(a)	Victoria University of Wellington (VUW)	OIA136	MfE	13-Sep-18	18-Sep-18

[COMMERCIAL IN-CONFIDENCE]

Request	Correspondent	Organisation	Reference	Drafting agency	At your office/current status	Date due to send
I would also like to be able to access the same information that the Interim Climate Change Commission holds, deemed to be held by your office by way of the Official Information Act, s 2(2). I do not think that that the plan to introduce the Bill into the House in October constitutes 'soon' under s 18(d), nor is there another reason for withholding the official information.						
I would like to request under the OIA a copy of all documents provided to Minister's offices which contain advice or information related to a possible decision for New Zealand adopt a split gases approach (e.g. treating methane different to carbon dioxide) to a 2050 or 2030 climate change target. I would also like to request, under the OIA, a copy of all documents provided to Minister's offices which contain advice or information related to any potential changes to New Zealand's Nationally Determined Contribution to the Paris Agreement. This includes a potential submission of an update to New Zealand's contribution, as requested by UNFCCC decision 1/CP.21.	s 9(2)(a)	National Party	OIA140	MfE	20-Sep-18	25-Sep-18
Under the OIA, please provide all advice you have received relating to placing a cap on the number of Emissions Trading Scheme (ETS) units, how this cap will affect the price of ETS units, and how the price of ETS units will affect retail electricity prices specifically, and the cost of living generally.	s 9(2)(a)	ACT Party	OIA141	MfE	27-Sep-18	1-Oct-18

[COMMERCIAL IN-CONFIDENCE]

6.2. Ministry for the Environment OIAs

Request	Correspondent	Organisation	Reference	Date due to send
<p>“Please provide the various drafts of the Consultation paper “Ministry for the Environment. 2018. Our Climate Your Say: Consultation on the Zero Carbon Bill. Wellington: Ministry for the Environment.”</p> <p>In addition I would like to know where the initial draft came from, any instructions to the Chief Executive, officials or draftspersons and discussions, notes of meetings and correspondence with external (to the department) parties (including other officials) in regards to its content. I am particularly interested to see information that rationalises the somewhat alarmist claims that have already been subject to the OIA (summarised below) and the information contained in an earlier document published by MfE known as: “Our atmosphere and climate 2017 DATA TO 2016” (attached) that is somewhat more measured in its analysis (see attached synthesis).”</p>	s 9(2)(a)	Spinletop Law	18-D-01568	<p>Fri, 3 Aug</p> <p>(Receipt of this OIA was delayed due to crucial correspondence from the requestor being caught in the Spam filter.)</p>
<p>Can I please have any information received or produced that considers spatial land use change information produced by the LURNZ model during the process of modelling potential land use change under various scenarios for a 2050 greenhouse gas emissions reduction target?</p> <p>Can I also please have a copy of any internal memos, reports or other documents that discuss precisely where land use change is either modelled to occur or anticipated to occur in order to achieve various proposed greenhouse emissions reduction targets for 2050. This request is specifically in relation to various government reports and discussion documents recently released that indicate a zero emissions target by 2050 is possible but will require extensive afforestation. I am interested to understand where this afforestation is likely to occur.</p>	s 9(2)(a)	National Party	18-D-01721	Mon, 17 Sep
<p>1. Under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act), we request all information (together with copies of any supporting documentation) held by the Ministry for the Environment with regard to proposals developed in 2017 for third parties to plant on Crown owned or government land. This includes:</p> <p>(a) Any material prepared and received by officials in relation to these proposals;</p> <p>(b) Any briefings, advice, assessments or correspondence provided to the current and</p>	s 9(2)(a)	Simpson Grierson	18-D-01809	<p>Tue, 11 Sep</p> <p>(extension being processed – new due date tbc)</p>

Request	Correspondent	Organisation	Reference	Date due to send
<p>previous Ministers for the Environment on these proposals; (c) Any evaluations or reports prepared or held by the Ministry on the government land subject to the proposals; (d) Details of any meetings to discuss these proposals including dates, agendas, briefings and names of those in attendance.</p> <p>2. We understand that there was a Cabinet paper prepared on the proposals at the end of 2017 and that the proposals have not progressed further since then. We request a copy of this Cabinet paper.</p> <p>3. We recognise that there may be some limited sensitive commercial information associated with the material requested and accept that some details may need to be withheld, for example on tender pricing. We note however that disclosure of the majority of this information, including the commercial entities involved, does not result in unreasonable prejudice to the commercial positions of the parties under s 9(2)(b)(ii) because no strategic information, such as pricing, will be revealed.</p> <p>4. Relevant to any consideration of the public interest, we note that the Ombudsman has emphasised in his guidance on commercial information under the Act that the disclosure of tender information is in the public interest, to uphold the transparency and integrity of public sector tendering processes.</p>				
<p>all documents provided to Minister's offices which contain advice or information related to a possible decision for New Zealand adopt a split gases approach (e.g. treating methane different to carbon dioxide) to a 2050 or 2030 climate change target.</p> <p>I would also like to request, under the OIA, a copy of all documents provided to Minister's offices which contain advice or information related to any potential changes to New Zealand's Nationally Determined Contribution to the Paris Agreement. This includes a potential submission of an update to New Zealand's contribution, as requested by UNFCCC decision 1/CP.21.</p> <p>To narrow the scope this OIA can be interpreted to include all documents since the 1st of October 2017.</p>	<p>s 9(2)(a)</p>	<p>National Party</p>	<p>18-D-01859</p>	<p>Fri, 21 Sep (partial transfer being processed – amended request tbc)</p>

Request	Correspondent	Organisation	Reference	Date due to send
A copy of any documents shared with other government agencies, Ministers offices or Ministers, since October 2017, that discuss New Zealand's access to international carbon markets (including, but not limited to, linking New Zealand's emissions trading scheme to other emissions trading scheme or government purchasing of internationally transferred mitigation outcomes).	s 9(2)(a)	National Party	18-D-01906	Mon, 24 Sep

Proactively released

[COMMERCIAL IN-CONFIDENCE]

Appendix: MfE Sustainability Strategy

Our Sustainability Commitment



Aotearoa – he whenua mana kura mō te tangata

Our goal is that Aotearoa New Zealand is the most liveable place in the world. For this to be realised, and for New Zealand to prosper, our environment must prosper. We need to care for our natural resources and put the environment at the heart of our decision making. A thriving environment underpins our economic prosperity; it contributes to our health and our physical well-being and is central to what it means to be a Kiwi.

Sustainability for us at the Ministry for the Environment means operating within our baseline, minimising our environmental footprint and providing our people what they need to thrive. We connect, engage, influence and mobilise action across New Zealand to care for, manage and invest in our natural resources wisely, so our environment thrives along with our economy and people.

We do this every day by living our Strategy on a Page and:

- Using our diversity as our strength – “He rau mano, he rau kotahi tangata” Embracing our multiple talents;
- Growing our people so they can be effective leaders, challenging and empowering others to improve environmental outcomes;
- Reducing our environmental footprint, leading by example and sharing best practice. We want to be a carbon neutral and zero waste Ministry;
- Advising with impact by providing New Zealanders with the best information at the right time to enable informed and sustainable decisions;
- Connecting others with an interest in better environmental outcomes to find solutions;
- Remaining financially sustainable by operating within our baseline; and
- Managing our funds for greatest environmental benefit and in-line with our outcomes.

We report on our performance and progress to our people and stakeholders on our intranet and in our Annual Report.



Making Aotearoa New Zealand
the most liveable place in the world
Aotearoa – he whenua mana kura mō te tangata

[COMMERCIAL IN-CONFIDENCE]

Ministry for the Environment Sustainability Strategy

Our purpose: Aotearoa - he whenua mana kura mō te tangata - Aotearoa New Zealand is the most liveable place in the world

Sustainability for us at the Ministry for the Environment means operating within our baseline, minimising our environmental footprint and providing our people what they need to thrive. We connect, engage, influence and mobilise action across New Zealand to care for, manage and invest in our natural resources wisely, so our environment thrives along with our economy and people. This is our plan to July 2020 which compliments our Strategy on a Page.

Our People

Being an awesome place to work



Our Environment

Leading by example



Our Finances & Transparency

Being financially fit so we can achieve our outcomes



Our longer term Goals

- Using our **diversity** as our strength – “He rau mano, he rau kotahi tangata” Embracing our multiple talents
- Growing our people so they can be effective leaders, challenging and empowering others to improve environmental outcomes

- Reducing our environmental footprint, leading by example and sharing best practice
- We want to be carbon neutral by reducing and then offsetting our emissions and be a zero waste ministry

- Advising with **impact** by providing New Zealanders with the **best information** at the right time to enable informed and sustainable decisions
- We lead by **connecting** others with an interest in better environmental outcomes to find solutions

- Remain **financially sustainable** by operating within our baseline
- **Reporting** on our performance and progress to our people and stakeholders on our intranet and in our Annual Report
- **Managing** our funds for greatest environmental benefit/impact and in-line with our priorities

Our Targets by July 1st 2020

- Develop and launch our Te Ao Māori Strategy
- Achieve Rainbow Tick Certification
- No gender pay gap
- Staff volunteering day available for all staff annually
- Diversity and Inclusion Policy and programme enacted

- Measure and report our carbon footprint and have it externally verified
- Reduce our waste to landfill by 50%
- Sustainability criteria added into the funds we administer
- Reduce our total energy use (kWh) in Environment House by 10% per m²
- Reduce our travel emissions by 20%

- Policy Plus - Sustainability is at the forefront of our minds and is woven into our everyday actions, advice and outcomes
- Building our voice – engagement, reputation and brand measurement scores consistently over 75%
- Use our state of the environment synthesis report EA2019 to lead action on sustainability managing our natural assets

- 100% of OIAs consistently delivered within statutory timeframes
- Measure and Report on our financial as well as non-financial results via our Annual Report and intranet
- Sustainable procurement principles incorporated into all contracts. We help lead this for Government to progress our outcomes

Our Environmental Commitment



Aotearoa – he whenua mana kura mō te tangata

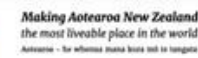
Our goal is that Aotearoa New Zealand is the most liveable place in the world.

To make New Zealand the most liveable place in the world, our environment must prosper. We need to care for and invest in our natural resources, understanding the consequences of our decisions, and make wise choices that will benefit future generations.

We need everyone to play a part. And that starts with us. At MfE we are a team of people passionate about the environment and the role we play. We take action, lead and help others succeed. We connect, engage, influence and mobilise action across New Zealand to care for, manage and invest in our natural resources wisely, so our environment thrives along with our economy and people. We can influence others environmental performance through our policy advice, environmental improvement funding, best practice advice and procurement.

As environmental stewards, we take every opportunity to reduce and minimise our environmental impact in our day to day work. This means that as well as complying with all relevant legislation and standards, we will:

- Continue to provide informed policy advice that leads to sustainable management of our natural assets.
- Monitor our environmental performance, setting and reviewing clear objectives and targets at least annually to ensure we are continually improving.
- Measure our carbon footprint, proactively seeking to reduce it, and reporting publically on our progress.
- Reduce our consumption of non-renewable resources and the waste we generate, thereby preventing any unnecessary pollution.
- Guide our staff to reduce impact of air and land travel.
- Raise our awareness of environmental issues associated with our organisation and monitoring new technologies or practices that may assist us to improve our environmental performance and demonstrate leadership for others.
- Consider the environmental credentials of products and services in our procurement decisions (in accordance with our Procurement Policy).
- Encourage our stakeholders within central government and beyond to minimise their environmental footprint.



[COMMERCIAL IN-CONFIDENCE]

Weekly update - Minister for Climate Change

Finalised on 14 September for the week commencing 17 September

Date: 17 September 2018
Time: 1.45 - 3.30 pm
Location: Office of the Minister for Climate Change

Attendees: Hon James Shaw, Minister for Climate Change
Vicky Robertson, Chief Executive, Ministry for the Environment
Cheryl Barnes, Deputy Secretary, Water & Climate Change
Roger Lincoln, Director, Climate Change
Janine Smith, Acting Director, Climate Change Policy
Bridget Fraser, Manager, Climate Change Policy
Matt Cowie, Acting Manager, Climate Change Policy
Jeremy Corban, Acting Chief Advisor, Climate Change
For item 3: Lewis Stevens, Senior Analyst, Climate Change Policy
Matt Pemberton, Senior Solicitor, Legal

	Agenda	Lead	Time
1	Context	Cheryl Barnes	10 mins
2	ETS consultation and fixed price option letter	Matt Cowie	10 mins
3	Zero Carbon Bill <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Target paper- Summary of Submissions- Legal accountability in the Zero Carbon Bill	Bridget Fraser	40 mins

Upcoming meetings 17 September – 1 October

Monday 17 September	MFE Officials Meeting MFAT Officials
Tuesday 18 September	Meeting with Wendy McGuinness (Climate Change reporting) Todd Muller
Wednesday 19 September	SPEECH: Beehive to Business - Wgtn Chamber of Commerce Meeting with the Interim Climate Change Committee
Thursday 20 September	Cabinet LEG Committee meeting (NZ ETS regulation amendments) Meeting with David Pine, Chair of the Trade for All Advisory Board (tbc)
Monday 24 September	MFE Officials Meeting MFAT Officials
Wednesday 26 September	Meeting with James Bushell, Director at MOTIF, re Carbon goals set by the Paris Agreement
Thursday 27 September	Meeting with Craig Olsen, Chief Executive of IAG
Friday 28 September	Meeting with Ian Fraser and Prem Maan (Southern Pastures) regarding the NZ ETS

Actions from previous meeting

MfE to provide advice on

- Timing for a future meeting between Ministers Shaw and O'Connor and the BERG Governance Group
- The Sustainable Wealth Initiative and the Ministers involvement in this, along with timeframes, deliverables and other considerations for setting this up

1. Key decisions for you to make this week

- **Lodge Zero Carbon Bill Cabinet paper**
- **Sign fixed price option letter**

2. Material for you to be aware of this week

Domestic

2.1. NZ ETS Consultation

Consultation on improvements to the New Zealand Emissions Trading Scheme (NZ ETS) closes this Friday 21 September. Stakeholder meetings are now complete and discussions with NZ ETS stakeholders have been constructive and positive. Ten meetings were held around the country, as well as two online meetings to a total audience of approximately 570 stakeholders. Approximately 20 submissions have been received so far.

2.2. Climate Change Chief Executives Board update

The Climate Change Chief Executives Board had their second meeting on 31 August. Officials from the Productivity Commission attended, including the Chair Murray Sherwin, and briefed the Board on the final low-emissions economy report. The Board also provided feedback on the draft cross-government low-emission vehicle work programme presented by the Minister of Transport. Additional matters covered were Zero Carbon Bill updates, particularly on targets, and EECA's current programme and activities. The next meeting is scheduled for 18 September, and will focus on targets and the ZCB. A forward agenda plan and refined work programme is being prepared by officials for the Board's consideration at the following meeting on 26 October. An important item at that meeting will also be the Board's oversight of the public sector response to the Productivity Commission report. We will shortly provide you with a brief regarding agreement to the CE Board's Terms of Reference and the sequencing of Board meetings with climate change Ministers meetings.

International

2.3. New Zealand contributes to France's Pacific Biodiversity and Adaptation Fund

New Zealand has agreed to contribute \$1m to France's Pacific Biodiversity and Adaptation Fund (from Vote ODA). This Fund, and New Zealand's contribution, has not yet been publicly announced. We understand it will be unveiled by President Macron during the One Planet Summit 2.0 side event at the United Nations General Assembly on 26 September. Prime Minister Arden may include reference to New Zealand's contribution in a keynote speech at the event.

2.4. Following up the Bangkok Negotiation Session

Following the recent Bangkok negotiation session (formal message copied to your office), it is clear the Paris Agreement Work Programme has a considerable way to go to conclude on

schedule. Even allowing for non-time critical elements of the programme to roll over into next year and beyond, a successful landing at COP24 is going to rest heavily on the APA co-Chairs' inter-sessional efforts, and how well the Poles can prepare the ground for heads of delegation and ministers to find their way to middle ground. The negotiation team's focus in the period up to the COP will lie on identifying trade-offs within and across the enormous number of issues still unresolved in the PAWP and preparing potential bridge building solutions to the extent we are able. We will assess the fitness of our current negotiation mandate in due course. As things stand, it appears to remain appropriate.

New Zealand is not invited to the informal Heads of Delegation meeting to be convened by Poland in New York on 27 September, but is on the list for the October pre-COP. Jo Tyndall will attend both in her APA co-Chair capacity.

2.5. Private Sector Delegation to COP24

MFAT is reaching out to private sector representatives known to be considering December travel to Europe, and additional agriculture sector representatives, testing interest in attending the COP in order to ensure the private sector delegation has sufficient critical mass

2.6. Climate Ambition Database

MFAT Posts have completed a round of reporting on host and accredited countries' climate change targets and policy programmes. This reporting has confirmed a number of countries have carbon neutral or other ambitious long-term targets. This information has been summarised for possible inclusion in the forthcoming ZCB Cabinet paper. A summary will be provided to you for information and updates will be provided over time as other countries' policy settings change.

2.7. Mexican diplomat appointed Special Envoy to lead the UNSG Climate Summit in 2019

This week UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres announced career diplomat and former Mexican Special Climate Change Representative, Luis Alfonso De Alba, will be the Special Envoy to lead the preparations for the 2019 Climate Summit that Guterres is convening in New York in September 2019. This role is complementary to those of Special Envoy for Climate Action, Michael Bloomberg, and Special Advisor Bob Orr, who will help to mobilise private finance and encourage bottom-up action. MFAT officials have had contact with De Alba over the past year through his involvement in the Pacific Alliance process. Upcoming bilateral engagements between the Prime Minister and Guterres, and the NZ Secretary of Foreign Affairs and de Alba, will allow us to explore the possibility of New Zealand involvement in the Summit, potentially with an agriculture focus, given our leadership in this area. The Summit could also be an opportunity to communicate New Zealand's long term low emissions development strategy (LEDS) which, under the terms of the Paris COP21 outcome, is due by 2020. Officials will provide advice to you separately on development of a LT LEDS for New Zealand in due course.

2.8. Carbon Neutrality Coalition update

An inaugural High-Level Meeting of the Carbon Neutrality Coalition will be held in the margins of UN Leaders' Week in New York. New Zealand advocacy for countries to join the Coalition has been successful. The UK has joined, and Canadian and Danish officials advise they are both in the process of gaining necessary Ministerial approvals for joining. Among other things, this means the Coalition event during Leaders' Week will include an announcement of new members, each

of whom will have an opportunity to sign a copy of the Declaration of the Carbon Neutrality Coalition in front of media, and to make brief remarks.

2.9. COP24 Sustainable Agriculture and Climate Change Event

Five countries have confirmed their involvement in the NZ-led event at COP24: Ireland, France, Canada, Australia and the Netherlands. MFAT and MPI are working closely with those countries, each of whom have confirmed they will lead a session in the event.

2.10. Global Climate Action Summit- Opinion piece by Minister Shaw

The op-ed developed with WRI for promulgation in your name was published on Wednesday 12 September in "Climate Home News." Climate Home News is an independent news website and claims a world-wide audience.

A shorter version has also been submitted to the San Francisco Chronicle, which has a readership number of approximately one million.

2.11. Multilateral Initiatives Fund

Three Pacific Island delegates will be funded from MFAT's Multilateral Initiatives Fund to attend the International Maritime Organisation's 4th Intersessional Working Group on Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction and the 73rd Session of the Marine Environment Protection Committee in London in October. The upcoming meetings will consider processes and procedures to select candidate measure the IMO will pursue to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. A strong Pacific voice at these meetings is an important influence on achieving an outcome that is as high ambition as possible, and is also consistent with our Pacific Reset.

3. Upcoming key events/announcements involving MfE/MFAT

Issue or event	Timing
Release of ZCB summary of submissions	21 September 2018
Carbon Neutrality Coalition inaugural high-level meeting	27 September 2018
UNGA Climate Week, New York, Prime Minister to attend, accompanied by Jo Tyndall. The week involves: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keynote speech at opening of Climate Week (24 September) • Panel discussion as a part of the Bloomberg Global Business Forum (which has a climate change theme) (26 September) • Keynote address at President Macron's One Planet Summit 2.0 (26 September) • Keynote address at the inaugural high-level meeting of the Carbon Neutrality Coalition (27 September, see below) 	24-28 September
Informal Heads of Delegation meeting hosted by COP24 President Poland, New York. Jo Tyndall to attend.	27 September

4. Upcoming briefings

Papers for your 21 September bag

Issue or event	Lead	Further information
Report back on a response to the Climate Change Adaptation Technical Working Group recommendations report	MfE	This briefing provides our recommended approach to responding to the CCATWG recommendations report

Papers for your 28 September bag

Issue or event	Lead	Further information
International Climate Change Work Programme	MFAT	Seeks your feedback on schematic of international climate change work programme for possible annexing to International Climate Change Leadership Cabinet Paper
International Collaborative Initiatives	MFAT	Summary of New Zealand's current commitments to international collaborative initiatives for your information.

5. Cabinet material being prepared for you

Paper name	Committee	What this paper covers	Our suggested timeframes
Zero Carbon Bill	DEV	Policy decisions and report back on consultation	Lodge 20 Sept ENV 25 Sept Cabinet 8 Oct
s9(2)(f)(iv)			
NZ ETS forestry technical regulation improvements (MPI lead)	ENV	Report back from consultation and approval for drafting amendments	Lodge 25 Oct ENV 30 Oct Cabinet 1 Nov
Industrial allocation and NZ Aluminium Smelter Ltd	ENV	Approval for changes to allocation model used for calculating NZAS' allocation and financial implications	Lodge 25 Oct ENV 30 Oct Cabinet 1 Nov
International dimensions of leadership on climate change	ENV or ERS	Alignment of foreign, trade, development and climate change policy	Lodge 25 Oct ENV 30 Oct Cabinet 1 Nov
NZ ETS exemptions	LEG	Approval for amendment regulations for two forestry exemptions	Mid October TBC

NZ ETS forestry section 60 exemptions 'go fast' policy paper (MPI lead)	ENV	Proposal for a 'go fast' process for responding to requests for forestry exemptions	TBC
Zero Carbon Bill	LEG	Presentation of draft Bill	29-Nov
NZ ETS forestry technical regulation improvements (MPI lead)	LEG	Presentation of draft amendment regulations	29 Nov
NZ ETS improvements - report back from consultation	TBC	Report back from consultation and approval for drafting amendment Bill	Dec (TBC)

Proactively released

6. OIA requests

6.1. Ministerial*

Request	Correspondent	Organisation	Reference	Drafting agency	Due at your office/current status	Date due to send
<p>Can I please request the following documents under the Official Information Act? Call for the provision of electricity related contracts (aluminium smelting) notice 2018 -Thu, 12 July; Proposed climate change work programme on agriculture - Fri, 20 July;</p>	s 9(2)(a)	National Party	OIA130	MfE	13-Sep-18	19-Sep-18
<p>Under the Official Information Act I request a copy of the following documents:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "Improvements to the NZ Emissions Trading Scheme Slide Pack" - 11 July; " • "Meeting Brief: Ann Smith and Steve Dixon, Enviro-Mark Solutions (18 July)" - 12 July; " • "Climate Change ETS Forestry Package Cabinet paper and supporting materials for Ministerial consultation" - 12 July; 	s 9(2)(a)	National Party	OIA133	MfE	27-Sep-18	4-Oct-18
<p>I am researching the probable effectiveness of the Zero Carbon Act for coursework at the Victoria University Faculty of Law. I am asking for information under the Official Information Act. I am hoping to get the information that your office holds on,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the possible effects or effectiveness of the possible Zero Carbon Act of the possible inclusion of allowing Emissions Reductions Units, or other internationally tradeable carbon offsets, established under the Kyoto Protocol or otherwise, to count towards Aotearoa New Zealand's possible short, medium and long term goals established in the possible Zero Carbon Act or goal setting tools established in that Act, and, • the current drafting of the Zero Carbon Act in regards to Emissions Reductions Units or other internationally tradeable carbon offsets or units established under the Kyoto Protocol or otherwise. 	s 9(2)(a)	Victoria University of Wellington (VUW)	OIA136	MfE	13-Sep-18	18-Sep-18

[COMMERCIAL IN-CONFIDENCE]

Request	Correspondent	Organisation	Reference	Drafting agency	Due at your office/current status	Date due to send
<p>I would also like to be able to access the same information that the Interim Climate Change Commission holds, deemed to be held by your office by way of the Official Information Act, s 2(2).</p> <p>I do not think that that the plan to introduce the Bill into the House in October constitutes 'soon' under s 18(d), nor is there another reason for withholding the official information.</p>						
<p>I would like to request under the OIA a copy of all documents provided to Minister's offices which contain advice or information related to a possible decision for New Zealand adopt a split gases approach (e.g. treating methane different to carbon dioxide) to a 2050 or 2030 climate change target.</p> <p>I would also like to request, under the OIA, a copy of all documents provided to Minister's offices which contain advice or information related to any potential changes to New Zealand's Nationally Determined Contribution to the Paris Agreement. This includes a potential submission of an update to New Zealand's contribution, as requested by UNFCCC decision 1/CP.21.</p>	s 9(2)(a)	National Party	OIA140	MfE	20-Sep-18	25-Sep-18
<p>Under the OIA, please provide all advice you have received relating to placing a cap on the number of Emissions Trading Scheme (ETS) units, how this cap will affect the price of ETS units, and how the price of ETS units will affect retail electricity prices specifically, and the cost of living generally.</p>	s 9(2)(a)	ACT Party	OIA141	MfE	27-Sep-18	1-Oct-18

[COMMERCIAL IN-CONFIDENCE]

6.2. Ministry for the Environment OIAs

Request	Correspondent	Organisation	Reference	Date due to send
<p>Can I please have any information received or produced that considers spatial land use change information produced by the LURNZ model during the process of modelling potential land use change under various scenarios for a 2050 greenhouse gas emissions reduction target?</p> <p>Can I also please have a copy of any internal memos, reports or other documents that discuss precisely where land use change is either modelled to occur or anticipated to occur in order to achieve various proposed greenhouse emissions reduction targets for 2050. This request is specifically in relation to various government reports and discussion documents recently released that indicate a zero emissions target by 2050 is possible but will require extensive afforestation. I am interested to understand where this afforestation is likely to occur.</p>	s 9(2)(a)	National Party	<u>18-D-01721</u>	Mon, 17 Sep
<p>all documents provided to Minister's offices which contain advice or information related to a possible decision for New Zealand adopt a split gases approach (e.g. treating methane different to carbon dioxide) to a 2050 or 2030 climate change target.</p> <p>I would also like to request, under the OIA, a copy of all documents provided to Minister's offices which contain advice or information related to any potential changes to New Zealand's Nationally Determined Contribution to the Paris Agreement. This includes a potential submission of an update to New Zealand's contribution, as requested by UNFCCC decision 1/CP.21.</p> <p>To narrow the scope this OIA can be interpreted to include all documents since the 1st of October 2017.</p>	s 9(2)(a)	National Party	18-D-01859	Fri, 21 Sep
<p>A copy of any documents shared with other government agencies, Ministers offices or Ministers, since October 2017, that discuss New Zealand's access to international carbon markets (including, but not limited to, linking New Zealand's emissions trading scheme to other emissions trading scheme or government purchasing of internationally transferred mitigation outcomes).</p>	s 9(2)(a)	National Party	<u>18-D-01906</u>	Mon, 24 Sep
<p>1. Under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act), we request all information (together with copies of any supporting documentation) held by the Ministry for the Environment with regard to proposals developed in</p>	s 9(2)(a)	Simpson Grierson	18-D-01809	Wed, 24 Oct

[COMMERCIAL IN-CONFIDENCE]

Request	Correspondent	Organisation	Reference	Date due to send
<p>2017 for third parties to plant on Crown owned or government land. This includes:</p> <p>(a) Any material prepared and received by officials in relation to these proposals;</p> <p>(b) Any briefings, advice, assessments or correspondence provided to the current and previous Ministers for the Environment on these proposals;</p> <p>(c) Any evaluations or reports prepared or held by the Ministry on the government land subject to the proposals;</p> <p>(d) Details of any meetings to discuss these proposals including dates, agendas, briefings and names of those in attendance.</p> <p>2. We understand that there was a Cabinet paper prepared on the proposals at the end of 2017 and that the proposals have not progressed further since then. We request a copy of this Cabinet paper.</p> <p>3. We recognise that there may be some limited sensitive commercial information associated with the material requested and accept that some details may need to be withheld, for example on tender pricing. We note however that disclosure of the majority of this information, including the commercial entities involved, does not result in unreasonable prejudice to the commercial positions of the parties under s 9(2)(b)(ii) because no strategic information, such as pricing, will be revealed.</p> <p>4. Relevant to any consideration of the public interest, we note that the Ombudsman has emphasised in his guidance on commercial information under the Act that the disclosure of tender information is in the public interest, to uphold the transparency and integrity of public sector tendering processes.</p>				

6.3. MFAT OIAs

Request	Correspondent	Organisation	Reference	Drafting agency	Due at your office/current status	Date due to send
<p>Under the Official Information Act I am requesting any documents provided to Cabinet Ministers that contain advice regarding the impact of a split gas climate change target on New Zealand's international relations.</p> <p>To narrow the scope, can the date range please be from 1 October 2017 until present.</p>	s 9(2)(a)	National Party	OIA 26213	MFAT	13-Sep-18	20-Sep-18

[COMMERCIAL IN-CONFIDENCE]

Request	Correspondent	Organisation	Reference	Drafting agency	Due at your office/current status	Date due to send
<p>I would also like to request, under the OIA, a copy of all documents provided to Minister's offices which contain advice or information related to any potential changes to New Zealand's Nationally Determined Contribution to the Paris Agreement. This includes a potential submission of an update to New Zealand's contribution, as requested by UNFCCC decision 1/CP.21.</p> <p>To narrow the scope this OIA can be interpreted to include all documents since the 1st of October 2017.</p>	s 9(2)(a)	National Party	OIA 26214	MFAT	14-Sep-18	21-Sep-18

Proactively released

Weekly update - Minister for Climate Change

Finalised on 21 September for the week commencing 24 September

Date: 24 September
Time: 2:30 – 4:30 pm
Location: Office of the Minister for Climate Change

Attendees: Hon James Shaw, Minister for Climate Change
 Vicky Robertson, Chief Executive, Ministry for the Environment
 Cheryl Barnes, Deputy Secretary, Water & Climate Change
 Roger Lincoln, Director, Climate Change
 Janine Smith, Acting Director, Climate Change Policy
 For item 2: Tamara Linnhoff, Principal Analyst, Climate Change
 For item 3: James Walker, Deputy Secretary, Partnerships and Customers
 For item 3: Jack Bisset, Senior Analyst, Climate Change

	Agenda	Lead	Time
1	Context	Cheryl Barnes	10 mins
2	Zero Carbon Bill <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Economic modelling - Timeframes - Summary of Submissions 	Janine Smith	60 mins
3	Sustainable finance	James Walker	10 mins

Actions from the previous meeting

MfE to provide advice on

- Zero Carbon Bill:
 - How the residual cost of methane could be covered and the real cost of \$2 billion in 2050;
 - Timeline leading up to LEG Committee in January 2019, and;
 - Legal accountability – other pieces of law with targets, what happens if targets aren't met under the Public Finance Act and whether legal accountability risks need to be covered in the Cabinet Paper

Upcoming meetings 24 September – 1 October

Monday 24 September	MFE Officials Meeting MFAT Officials Meeting with Todd Muller and Andrew Bayly (tbc) Teleconference call with Jonathon Church, ClientEarth re: ZCB
Tuesday 25 September	Meeting with Hons Mahuta and Faafoi re: Cab Paper on Community Resilience Work (prior to Hon Mahuta lodging the paper) SPEECH: Open the Wellington Rainbow Warrior Clean Energy Event
Wednesday 26 September	Meeting with Todd Muller and Andrew Bayly Meeting with James Bushell, Director at MOTIF, re Carbon goals set by the Paris Agreement
Thursday 27 September	Meeting with Craig Olsen, Chief Executive of IAG
Friday 28 September	Meeting with Ian Fraser and Prem Maan (Southern Pastures) regarding the NZ ETS
Monday 1 October	MFE Officials Meeting MFAT Officials Meeting
Tuesday 2 October	Southland Dairy Leaders Advisory Group: Visiting two farms SPEECH and Q&A Session: Lunch event with Southland Dairy Leaders Advisory Group
Thursday 4 October	Meeting with Chris Luxon, CEO of Air New Zealand, re Key Issues Meeting with Environmental NGOs
Friday 5 October	SPEECH: Council of Trade Unions (CTU) Conference - Just Transition Roundtable ATTEND WITH THE PM: Official launch of the Living Building Challenge for the Sustainable Coastlines Flagship Education Centre (Minister to switch on the solar array and Tesla battery system)

1. Material for you to be aware of this week

Domestic

1.1. ETS Consultation

Consultation on improvements to the New Zealand Emissions Trading Scheme (NZ ETS) closed on Friday 21 September. There was a high level of interest in the consultation, with stakeholder meetings attracting higher than anticipated audiences. Key discussion topics included the relationship between the ETS and the Zero Carbon Bill and incentives for forestry. There have been approximately 100 submissions received as at 10am Friday 21st^h September. Final submission numbers should be available on Monday 24th September.

1.2. Zero Carbon Bill timeframes

Officials are working to get you a final Zero Carbon Bill Cabinet Paper and Regulatory Impact Statement (RIS) by 28 October. To finalise these documents we need to complete the economic analysis and obtain your feedback on the 2050 target.

If you do not require any changes to the Cabinet Paper, your official ministerial consultation can start on 1 October. Depending on the time you need for this consultation (and any subsequent changes that may be required to the Cabinet Paper), your options are taking the paper to:

- ENV Committee on 30 October and Cabinet on 5 November
- To ask for an additional ENV Committee meeting to be scheduled on 23 October. This would mean going to Cabinet on 29 October respectively.

We recommend that you explore the options of setting an unscheduled ENV Committee meeting to keep all options open at this stage.

s9(2)(f)(iv)

1.3. Release of 'Reducing barriers to electric vehicle uptake, behavioural insights: analysis and review' report

The Ministry's Behavioural Insights Group has produced a report, jointly with MoT and EECA, identifying the barriers and behavioural biases hindering the uptake of EVs internationally and in New Zealand.

We are planning to release the report on the Ministry's website in late September.

The report identifies three major barriers to the uptake of EVs:

- perceptual issues regarding driving range;
- perceptual issues regarding charging infrastructure; and
- high upfront costs.

The report suggests interventions to overcome these barriers and biases drawing upon behavioural insights literature and successful international interventions.

The report's findings and suggestions are consistent with the current approach taken under the Government's cross-agency EV Programme. The EV Programme initiative most relevant to the report is the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Authority's (EECA) EV Information Campaign. The report suggests further recommendations for car dealerships and government agencies to help overcome barriers and biases that may be holding back increased EV uptake in New Zealand.

We will provide you with the report, a briefing, talking points and a proposed media release for the Ministry's social media in next week's bag. We will also work with your office on the date of release.

1.4. Hawkes Bay's approach to coastal adaptation to Climate Change: A Case Study for the OECD

Officials are working with Hawkes Bay Regional Council to write a case study outlining their approach to coastal hazards and climate change in Clifton to Tangoio. This case study is for the OECD to include in an upcoming report '*Responding to rising seas: comparing OECD countries' approaches to coastal adaptation*'. The report will be released by the OECD in early 2019 and will

be one of 4-5 case studies from OECD members. We will update you again before the OECD releases the report.

The case study highlights that coastal erosion flooding from the sea (inundation) and tsunami are pressing issues facing the Hawkes Bay. The case study will also describe the collaborative approach the Hawkes Bay Regional Council, Local Councils, iwi and community is taking to address these issues and what this means for the 100-year Clifton to Tangoio Coastal Hazards Strategy 2120.

The OECD's approach to this work has been to emphasise the role of central government, specifically the development of National Adaptation Plans. In our case study we have looked to illustrate what can be done beyond central government by using the Hawkes Bay as an example of how local government can also play a leadership role in responding to coastal adaptation to climate change and, in particular, the involvement of the community and iwi in this process. Including this case study in OECD's report aims to support other New Zealand councils and OECD member countries in their work on addressing coastal adaptation to climate change.

1.5. Release of the Interim report of the Tax Working Group

The Tax Working Group's Interim Report was released on Thursday 20 September.

The treatment of natural capital is one of two key areas raised in the interim report, alongside the inconsistent taxation of capital income capital. Taxation is identified as a valuable tool – alongside regulation and spending measures – that can be used to influence economic activity and guide a transition to more a sustainable economy.

As was detailed in the Secretariat's presentation to you on 10 September, the Group has developed a framework for deciding when to apply taxes to address environmental externalities and specific opportunities where taxation could play a role. The Group is recommending further work by the Government on the use of tax or other economic instruments in the areas of waste, congestion, greenhouse gases (through strengthening the ETS), water pollution and water abstraction.

This is an interim report only. The message that we want the public to receive is that it is important to allow the review to run its course so that the pros and cons of different changes can be fully debated, and that the Government will be listening to further feedback on the issues raised in the report. The Government will not make any decisions until the final report is received in February 2019.

An open letter from the Ministers of Finance and Revenue has been sent to the Group. This includes welcoming the continuing consideration of what role the tax system can play in the delivery of positive environmental and ecological outcomes over the medium and longer term. It also notes that the Government's current environmental work programme provides opportunities to discuss and develop some of the issues raised by the Group in the Interim Report, especially the Waste Work Programme, the Congestion Question project the Zero Carbon Act and the establishment of the Independent Climate Commission.

The Ministry has been involved in the development of the recommendations in the interim report, and will continue to engage with the Group and the secretariat on environmental matters.

1.6. Indicators for *Our Air 2018*

The list of indicators included in *Our Air 2018* were publicly released by the Government Statistician on 18 September. *Our Air 2018*, published under the Environmental Reporting Act, will be released at 11am on 18 October.

The content of the report is confidential until release. You will be briefed orally on 17 October alongside relevant Ministers and will be provided with an embargoed copy of the report.

There are two new indicators compared to previous publications: black carbon concentrations, and artificial night sky brightness (which is of particular relevance to Te Ao Māori).

The other indicators (revised, merged or kept as is compared to previous publications) are: PM10 concentrations, PM2.5 concentrations, heavy metals, air pollutant emissions, nitrogen dioxide concentrations, natural sources of particulate matter, health effects from exposure to PM10, benzene concentrations, carbon monoxide concentrations, ground level ozone concentrations, sulphur dioxide concentrations, and total suspended particulate matter concentrations in Penrose, Auckland.

The main data gaps identified include issues such as having limited geographic coverage of air pollutant monitoring over time, the need for better data on key sources of air pollutants, limited New Zealand-specific data on the health impacts of exposure to air pollutants, and the lack of data about the impact of air pollutants on natural ecosystems and biodiversity.

1.7. ETS Price Floor

We are aware that Motu have recently released an article calling for a “price floor” to be implemented within the NZ ETS. There are broader questions to be considered related to current discussions regarding the ZCB targets and choices made here will inform our advice. We will provide you with advice on this matter as part of our work on the ETS improvements.

International

1.8. Democrats pushing for a bill requiring the disclosure of climate risks

Elizabeth Warren of Massachusetts is leading an effort by Democratic senators to introduce a Climate Risk Disclosure Bill to require public companies to disclose their exposure to climate-related risks. Under the bill, the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission would be directed to work with climate experts at other federal agencies to issue rules within one year requiring publicly listed companies to disclose : direct and indirect greenhouse gas emissions, all fossil-fuel related assets the company owns or manages, the effect on the company’s market valuation if climate change continues at its current pace or if greenhouse gas emissions were restricted in compliance with the Paris Agreement; and lastly what strategies are in place to address the physical and transition risks posed by climate change. These disclosures closely mirror but are not identical to the recommendations made by the Task-Force on Climate-Related Financial Disclosures. This is a useful example of how the disclosure of climate risks can be framed as a mandatory obligation.

1.9. Calls for climate action in Australia

s9(2)(g)(i)

. In a series

of new television ads farmers are calling for the government to “stick to the Paris Agreement ... stop burning coal and ... commit to more renewable energy”. At the sub-federal level, the ACT has become the first jurisdiction in Australia to join the Powering Past Coal Alliance (of which New Zealand is also a member). ACT has a target of 100 per cent renewable electricity and net-zero emissions by 2045. Recent analysis by the Australia Institute shows that the clean energy transition is well under way despite difficulties in agreeing Federal-level energy policy. Wind, solar and hydro supplied 25.6% of Australia’s National Electricity Market in August 2018. South Australia and Victoria, the mainland states with the largest clean energy share (58% in SA) had the lowest wholesale prices. New projects coming online prior to 2020 will see renewables total around 10% of Australia’s current generation.

1.10. Swiss proposal for enhanced global governance of climate geoengineering

Geoengineering, defined as large-scale, intentional human intervention in the Earth’s climate system to alter the effects of climate change, is an emerging and potentially controversial area. Internationally, views vary as to the benefits of increased mitigation vs costs and risks of interfering in ecosystems with uncertain effects. There is currently limited information about research and deployment of geoengineering technologies and no comprehensive international framework exists to assess, monitor and steer policy development in this area. Switzerland is consulting on a proposal for enhanced international governance of geoengineering so as to minimise risk and maximize benefit to all from the use of geoengineering technology. Switzerland plans to table a resolution at the UN Environment Assembly (UENA-4) in 2019 that would mandate UNEP to set up a group of independent experts and prepare a stocktaking assessment of the state of science and global activity on geoengineering, to better inform development of international policy on the topic. MFAT, in consultation with MfE, are currently reviewing the proposal with a view to developing a New Zealand position in the event we are asked to support the Swiss resolution.

1.11. International Maritime Emissions: draft NZIER report on the impact of higher fuel prices and slow steaming on the New Zealand economy

The Ministry of Transport has commissioned a report on the impact on New Zealand’s economy of two matters: (i) slow steaming (reducing the speed of ships to reduce emissions intensity); and (ii) an IMO regulation that will require the use of low sulphur fuel from 2020. Slow steaming is being considered at the IMO as part of its strategy to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by at least 50% by 2050 compared to 2008 levels. A memo outlining the draft results (the final report is expected in October) concludes that real GDP impacts of slow steaming are very small at the macroeconomic level – between \$NZ3m and \$NZ9m. Slow steaming is expected to affect our chilled exports into Europe due to diminished shelf life. The report concludes that the size of this impact is expected to be small because these exports represent a very small proportion of our total goods and are likely to be redirected to closer export markets. However, at a more granular level, specific sectors and producers may be disproportionately affected if slow steaming measures are implemented.

1.12. The Global Commission on the Economy and Climate

The Global Commission on the Economy and Climate – which comprises former heads of government (including Rt Hon Helen Clark), former finance ministers, and leaders in fields of economics, business and finance – has released its latest report, “Unlocking the Inclusive Growth Story of the 21st Century: Accelerating Climate Action in Urgent Times”. In essence, the report

calls on governments, business, and finance leaders to urgently prioritise actions on four fronts over the next 2-3 years:

- Pricing carbon and moving to mandatory disclosure of climate-related financial risks;
- Accelerating investment in sustainable infrastructure as a central driver of growth;
- Harnessing the full power of the private sector and unleash innovation; and
- Building a people-centred approach that shares the gains equitably and ensures that the transition is just.

The report also highlights that agriculture and associated land use changes could consume 70% of the global greenhouse gas budget consistent with limiting global warming to 2°C if there is not a shift in practices. For the agriculture sector to achieve the triple win of improved food security and profitability, emissions mitigation and climate resilience, the report recommends, inter alia:

- Scaling up restoration of forests and wetlands;
- Reforming agricultural subsidies and policies in order to promote climate-smart agriculture and remove obstacles to its adoption;
- Public health campaigns that highlight the health and sustainability outcomes from consumers' dietary choices; and
- Increasing research and development into low impact agricultural practices.

1.13. Venezuela and Doha Amendment

Venezuela accepted the Doha Amendment earlier this year and it has come to Parties' attention that Venezuela's acceptance included a paragraph that declares:

“ For the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, this acceptance also involves the strict interpretation and application of the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities, in that the greenhouse gas emission limitation and reduction commitments are exclusive obligations of Annex I countries, in accordance with the principles established in the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, which constitute the basis of the Kyoto Protocol, and any other future agreement regulating the subject.”

Switzerland is currently considering whether it will formally object to the statement on the basis that its content goes beyond an interpretative declaration and is instead an attempt by Venezuela to make a forbidden reservation to the Amendment (the Kyoto Protocol prohibits reservations). We have been informed that Mexico is likely to object, however that has not been confirmed. We will continue to monitor the reactions of other Parties.

1.14. Release of OECD report on carbon pricing

The OECD has just (Tuesday 18 September) released a report called *'Effective Carbon Rates 2018: pricing carbon emissions through taxes and emissions trading'*. It compares the coverage and price levels of emissions trading schemes and taxes in 42 OECD and G20 countries against a benchmark of 30 euros per tonne of CO₂, which the OECD uses as a low-end estimate of current damage costs from emissions.

The report uses a 'pricing gap' to show how far coverage and prices would need to increase to meet the benchmark. The headline result is that – for the 42 countries together – the pricing gap is now 76.5%, meaning that prices and coverage together would need to increase nearly four times to close the gap.

The report focuses on the global situation and not on individual countries. It notes that the pricing gap for New Zealand was 72% which is higher than for European countries and comparable to Australia and the USA. These estimates include petrol excise duty as well as the NZ ETS.

However, they are based entirely on 2015 data, and have not been updated to account for higher NZU prices and the removal of the two-for-one transitional measure since that time. The NZ ETS price used in the OECD's analysis is only 2.12 euros per tonne. New Zealand has been making significant progress towards closing our own pricing gap since 2015.

1.15. Minister of Transport Cabinet Paper on Accession to MARPOL Annex VI

On Tuesday next week, Cabinet Environment Committee will consider a paper seeking approval to proceed with consultation with industry on New Zealand acceding to MARPOL Annex VI, which is an international instrument dealing with air pollution in the International Maritime Organisation (IMO). The paper has a climate change linkage; the IMO is currently discussing candidate measures to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in line with its initial strategy, which includes 'slow steaming' as a candidate measure, among many others. MARPOL Annex VI is the likely instrument for implementing IMO measures to reduce greenhouse gases. These matters are likely to be contentious and come down to voting in the IMO on specific amendments, and New Zealand will be better able to influence the development of these measures if we have acceded to MARPOL Annex VI.

2. Upcoming key events/announcements involving MfE/MFAT

Issue or event	Timing
Carbon Neutrality Coalition inaugural high-level meeting	27 September 2018
<p>UNGA Climate Week, New York, Prime Minister to attend, accompanied by Jo Tyndall. The week involves:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keynote speech at opening of Climate Week (24 September) • Panel discussion as a part of the Bloomberg Global Business Forum (which has a climate change theme) (26 September) • Keynote address at President Macron's One Planet Summit 2.0 (26 September) <p>Keynote address at the inaugural high-level meeting of the Carbon Neutrality Coalition (27 September, see below)</p>	24-28 September
Informal Heads of Delegation meeting hosted by COP24 President Poland, New York. Jo Tyndall to attend.	27 September
Climate Change and Business Conference, Auckland. Minister Parker, Vicky Robertson and Kay Harrison will be speaking.	9 and 10 October

3. Upcoming briefings

Papers for your 28 September bag

Issue or event	Lead	Further information
International Climate Change Work Programme	MFAT	Seeks your feedback on schematic of international climate change work programme for possible annexing to International Climate Change Leadership Cabinet Paper
International Collaborative Initiatives	MFAT	Summary of New Zealand's current commitments to international collaborative initiatives for your information.

4. Cabinet material being prepared for you

Paper name	Committee	What this paper covers	Our suggested timeframes
Zero Carbon Bill	ENV	Policy proposals for the Zero Carbon Bill	Lodge 18 Oct ENV 23 Oct Cabinet 29 Oct
s9(2)(f)(iv)			
NZ ETS forestry technical regulation improvements (MPI lead)	ENV	Report back from consultation and approval for drafting amendments	Lodge 25 Oct ENV 30 Oct Cabinet 1 Nov
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International dimensions of leadership on climate change	ENV or ERS	Alignment of foreign, trade, development and climate change policy	Lodge 25 Oct ENV 30 Oct Cabinet 1 Nov
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NZ ETS improvements - report back from consultation	TBC	Report back from consultation and approval for drafting amendment Bill	Dec (TBC)

5. Cabinet material we have been consulted on

Paper name	Agency	Committee	Our advice on the paper
Enhancing the Effectiveness of Government Procurement Policy	MBIE	DEV	<p>This paper proposes a coordinated and targeted approach to government procurement, which aims to achieve four priority outcomes. One of the priority outcomes is to support the transition to a zero net emissions economy and design waste out of the system.</p> <p>Under the proposals in the paper, government agencies will be asked to target specific industries and/or contracts for the four outcomes. If the approach proves effective this will, where applicable, be extended to other industries and contracts over time.</p> <p>We have highlighted with MBIE considerations that should be addressed, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Climate change adaptation being included as a priority outcome (aligning with the CCATWG's recommendation) • Focussing on wider capital works (ie KiwiBuild and PGF) and not just agency operational spend • Providing for more of a consideration of whole of life costs <p>You could raise these issues in the Committee meeting.</p> <p>However, overall, we suggest you support this paper as it is an important first step in aligning government practices with current and developing policy and targets</p>
Just Transition to a Low Emissions Economy: Strategic Discussion.	MBIE	DEV	<p>This paper seeks to support a strategic discussion between Ministers about:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What Ministers mean by a just transition 2. The proposed initial focus on ensuring a just transition to a low emissions economy. <p>Upcoming decisions on the Zero Carbon Bill, NZ ETS and Climate Change Commission will fundamentally change New Zealand. Understanding transition pathways and impacts across regions and sectors, and ensuring it is a just transition, is an important part of maintaining the social license to achieving New Zealand low emissions goals.</p> <p>The paper outlines MBIE's Just Transition Unit's initial work programme and how it complements the MfE's Transition Hub work programme.</p> <p>The paper recommends that Minister discuss whether there is merit in including the just transition work into a long term strategy to transition to a low emissions economy.</p> <p>We suggest you support this paper as it supports the work on transitioning to a low emissions economy.</p>

<p>Community resilience in the face of natural hazards and climate change</p>	<p>Department of Internal Affairs</p>	<p>(DEV) Cabinet Economic Development Committee</p>	<p>This paper sets out a proposed work programme to reduce risks associated with natural hazards, including adapting to climate change, in order to build resilience. The paper proposes a group of Ministers to oversee this work.</p> <p>You will be meeting with Hon Nanaia Mahuta, Minister of Local Government, on 25 September to discuss this paper.</p> <p>The current draft Cabinet paper states that the initial focus of the CRG's programme is to develop a policy framework for proportionate responses to existing high natural hazard areas between central and local government. The paper then indicates that the second stage of the work will develop sustainable policy settings for the future, including life risk and non-life risk vulnerability caused by natural hazards and climate change.</p> <p>MfE is working with DIA to ensure that the Cabinet paper accurately reflects how the initial focus on risk-to-life situations will concurrently inform the wider work programme.</p> <p>We consider this work programme is an important opportunity to get central government agencies working together to address a subset of the recommendations in final report from the Climate Change Adaptation Technical Working Group (CCATWG), and suggest you support this paper in principle.</p>
<p>Re-imagining Local Governance - draft Cabinet paper</p>	<p>Department of Internal Affairs</p>	<p>Cabinet Business Committee</p>	<p>We have received a draft Cabinet paper from DIA on <i>Re-imagining Local Governance in New Zealand</i>. The Minister of Local Government is seeking to have a strategic conversation with her Cabinet colleagues, and the local government sector, about how central and local government work together and the future role of local governance in New Zealand.</p> <p>We support the intent of the paper. Local government is crucial to the delivery of our environmental management outcomes, and the scale and complexity of the issues they are facing is growing. We think there is an opportunity to align this conversation with current work across urban, water, and climate change, and with future wider resource management reform, to improve our environmental management system.</p> <p>Minister Mahuta intends to lodge the paper on Thursday 4 October for consideration at Cabinet Business Committee on Monday 8 October. We will work with DIA to incorporate our views in the paper and can provide you with further advice ahead of the Cabinet committee meeting if required.</p>

6. OIA requests

6.1. Ministerial*

Request	Correspondent	Organisation	Reference	Drafting agency	Due at your office/current status	Date due to send
<p>Under the Official Information Act I request a copy of the following documents:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "Improvements to the NZ Emissions Trading Scheme Slide Pack" - 11 July; " • "Meeting Brief: Ann Smith and Steve Dixon, Enviro-Mark Solutions (18 July)" - 12 July; " • "Climate Change ETS Forestry Package Cabinet paper and supporting materials for Ministerial consultation" - 12 July; 	s 9(2)(a)	National Party	OIA133	MfE	27-Sep-18	4-Oct-18
<p>I would like to request under the OIA a copy of all documents provided to Minister's offices which contain advice or information related to a possible decision for New Zealand adopt a split gases approach (e.g. treating methane different to carbon dioxide) to a 2050 or 2030 climate change target. I would also like to request, under the OIA, a copy of all documents provided to Minister's offices which contain advice or information related to any potential changes to New Zealand's Nationally Determined Contribution to the Paris Agreement. This includes a potential submission of an update to New Zealand's contribution, as requested by UNFCCC decision 1/CP.21.</p>	s 9(2)(a)	National Party	OIA140	MfE	20-Sep-18	25-Sep-18
<p>Under the OIA, please provide all advice you have received relating to placing a cap on the number of Emissions Trading Scheme (ETS) units, how this cap will affect the price of ETS units, and how the price of ETS units will affect retail electricity prices specifically, and the cost of living generally.</p>	s 9(2)(a)	ACT Party	OIA141	MfE	27-Sep-18	1-Oct-18

[COMMERCIAL IN-CONFIDENCE]

6.2. Ministry for the Environment OIAs

Request	Correspondent	Organisation	Reference	Date due to send
<p>Could I also please have a copy of any documents or emails provided to any Minister, Ministers' office or other government department by MfE that contain information or advice in relation to where in New Zealand forest may be planted under government forest planting policies or as a result of government climate change policies, if such documents and emails exist.</p> <p>Could I also please have a copy of any documents or emails provided to any Minister or Ministers' office or other government department that contain information or advice in relation to the feasibility of planting large amounts of New Zealand in forest either as part of a government forest planting programme or to support the achievement of government greenhouse gas emissions reduction targets, if such documents and emails exist.</p> <p>Could I also please have a copy of any analysis, research, excel workbooks, either received or produced by MfE, that contains information on the economic impacts (including job creation or destruction) of shifting land use into forest.</p> <p>Could I also please have a copy of any documents or emails provided to any Minister, Minister's office or other government department that contains information on the economic impacts (including job creation or destruction) of shifting land use into forestry.</p> <p>Could I have please a copy of information provided to any Minister, Minister's office or other government department that considers policy options for driving large levels of land use conversion into forestry, including as a part of a Billion Trees Programme or as part of a policy to reduce New Zealand's net greenhouse gas emissions.</p>	s 9(2)(a)	National Party	18-D-01858	Fri, 21 Sep
<p>A copy of any documents shared with other government agencies, Ministers offices or Ministers, since October 2017, that discuss New Zealand's access to international carbon markets (including, but not limited to, linking New Zealand's emissions trading scheme to other emissions trading scheme or government purchasing of internationally transferred mitigation outcomes).</p>	s 9(2)(a)	National Party	18-D-01906	Mon, 24 Sep
<p>The possible effects or effectiveness of the possible Zero Carbon Act of the possible inclusion of allowing Emissions Reductions Units, or other internationally tradeable carbon offsets, established under the Kyoto Protocol or otherwise, to count towards Aotearoa New Zealand's possible short, medium and long term goals established in the possible Zero Carbon Act or goal setting tools established in that Act.</p>	s 9(2)(a)		18-D-01946	Tue, 9 Oct
<p>1. Under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act), we request all information (together with copies of any supporting documentation) held by the Ministry for the Environment with regard to proposals developed in 2017 for third parties to plant on Crown owned or government land. This includes:</p> <p>(a) Any material prepared and received by officials in relation to these proposals;</p> <p>(b) Any briefings, advice, assessments or correspondence provided to the current and previous Ministers</p>	s 9(2)(a)	Simpson Grierson	18-D-01809	Wed, 24 Oct

[COMMERCIAL IN-CONFIDENCE]

Request	Correspondent	Organisation	Reference	Date due to send
<p>for the Environment on these proposals;</p> <p>(c) Any evaluations or reports prepared or held by the Ministry on the government land subject to the proposals;</p> <p>(d) Details of any meetings to discuss these proposals including dates, agendas, briefings and names of those in attendance.</p> <p>2. We understand that there was a Cabinet paper prepared on the proposals at the end of 2017 and that the proposals have not progressed further since then. We request a copy of this Cabinet paper.</p> <p>3. We recognise that there may be some limited sensitive commercial information associated with the material requested and accept that some details may need to be withheld, for example on tender pricing. We note however that disclosure of the majority of this information, including the commercial entities involved, does not result in unreasonable prejudice to the commercial positions of the parties under s 9(2)(b)(ii) because no strategic information, such as pricing, will be revealed.</p> <p>4. Relevant to any consideration of the public interest, we note that the Ombudsman has emphasised in his guidance on commercial information under the Act that the disclosure of tender information is in the public interest, to uphold the transparency and integrity of public sector tendering processes.</p>				
<p>1) What positive impacts, if any, has the NZ Emissions Trading Scheme contributed in meeting our 2020 carbon emissions target? 2) How much have domestic NZ companies and businesses paid overseas to purchase carbon credits? 3) Are there any plans in place for NZ to replace the ETS with another model, given that it was a campaign promise of New Zealand First? 4) What are the projected benefits the One Billion Trees initiative will bring to helping us meet our carbon emissions target?</p>	s 9(2)(a)	Journalist - TheDefiant.net	18-D-01948	Tue, 9 Oct