



31 July 2024

OIAD-1115

9(2)(a)

Tēna koe 9(2)(a)

Thank you for your email of 4 June 2024 to the Ministry for the Environment (the Ministry) requesting the following under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

- 1) *Briefing notes, memos, cabinet papers sent to Ministers in the 12 months prior to the INDC being tabled, relating to the INDC.*
- 2) *Where the INDC says “In order to achieve domestic reductions and to do so at an affordable cost, we have identified a need for cost effective mitigation technology, and in particular that our continuing investment in agricultural research delivers results that can be commercialised within the time period covered by this contribution,” could you provide the assumptions that lead to this, for example:
 - a. *Assumptions relating to the technologies commercialisation, assumed effectiveness and update.*
 - b. *Any spreadsheets that contain this information.**
- 3) *The INDC states, “The likely cost to the New Zealand economy of meeting the 2030 target in terms of GDP is greater than that implied by other Parties’ tabled targets.” Could I have a copy of the analysis that supported this statement. While it wouldn’t be practical to share all internal analysis, if this could be interpreted to cover finished papers that may have been shared prior to internal workshops, workshops with other agencies, or briefings with Ministers on this issue. i.e. I don’t need all information, just enough to understand what the basis for comparison was, how this was calculated, and what countries we compared ourselves to.*

The Ministry has identified three documents in scope of part one of your request (Doc no. 1 - 3).

I am releasing “*Document 1 - 14-B-00817 - Draft Cabinet paper: International Climate Change New Zealand’s commitments and negotiations*” to you with some information refused under section 18(e) of the Act because the document’s appendix cannot be found, despite reasonable efforts to locate it.

I am releasing “*Document 2 - Memo: Information to support discussion with Senior Ministers*” to you in full.

I am releasing “*Document 3 - Cabinet paper: New Zealand’s intended contribution to the new global climate change agreement*” to you with some information withheld under the following sections of the Act:

- Section 6(a) - the making available of that information would be likely to prejudice the security or defence of New Zealand or the international relations of the Government of New Zealand; and
- Section 6(b)(i) - the making available of that information would be likely to prejudice the entrusting of information to the Government of New Zealand on a basis of

confidence by the Government of any other country or any agency of such a Government.

The statement referenced in the second part of your request was based on the two studies below:

- [Modelling the economic impact of New Zealand's post-2020 climate change contribution](#); and
- [A General Equilibrium Analysis of Options for New Zealand's post-2020 Climate Contribution](#).

The Ministry has identified two documents in scope of part three of your request, which I am releasing to you in full.

You may also find the Ministry's "*Comparable effort analysis of New Zealand's post-2020 contribution*" useful: [MfE-research-paper-on-comparability-of-2030-climate-change-target.pdf \(environment.govt.nz\)](#).

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

Please note that, due to the public interest in our work, the Ministry publishes responses to requests for official information on our [OIA responses page](#) shortly after the response has been sent. If you have any queries about this, please feel free to contact our Ministerial Services team: ministerials@mfe.govt.nz.

Nāku noa, nā,



Hemi Smiler

General Manager – Climate Change Mitigation
Ministry for the Environment | Manatū Mō Te Taiao

Document schedule

Doc no.	Document date	Content	Decisions	OIA sections applied
1	12/05/2014	14-B-00817 - Draft Cabinet paper: International Climate Change New Zealand's commitments and negotiations	Released in part	18(e)
2	5/06/2015	Memo: Information to support discussion with Senior Ministers	Released in full	N/A
3	6/07/2015	Cabinet paper: New Zealand's intended contribution to the new global climate change agreement	Released in part	6(a); 6(b)(i)
4	Undated	Equal GDP Estimations	Released in full	N/A
5	Undated	NDC Options Overview	Released in full	N/A