



25 July 2024

OIAD-1126

9(2)(a)

Tēnā koe 9(2)(a)

Thank you for your email of 12 June 2024 to the Ministry for the Environment (the Ministry) requesting the following under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

Please could I have

- Copies of any advice or reports on the potential for reporting agri emissions in alternative metrics eg GWP* (either instead of or as well as GWP100).
- Copies of any advice (including draft advice) on potential options for purchasing international mitigation to meet New Zealand's NDC. This part of the request covers 2024 only.

On 11 July 2024, the Ministry refused the first part of your request under section 18(e) of the Act, because the requested information does not exist.

At the same time, we notified you that we extended the timeframe to the second part of your request under section 15A(1)(b) of the Act, as consultations necessary to make a decision on the request are such that a proper response cannot reasonably be made within the original timeframe.

In response to the second part of your request, the Ministry has identified four documents in scope, as listed in the attached table. We are releasing two documents to you in part with some information withheld under the following sections of the Act:

- 9(2)(b)(ii) to protect information where the making available of the information would likely unreasonably to prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied or who is the subject of the information.
- 9(2)(d) to avoid prejudice to the substantial economic interests of New Zealand.
- 9(2)(f)(iv) to maintain the constitutional conventions for the time being which protect the confidentiality of advice tendered by Ministers of the Crown and officials.
- 9(2)(g)(i) to maintain the effective conduct of public affairs through the free and frank expression of opinions by or between or to Ministers of the Crown or members of an organisation or officers and employees of any public service agency or organisation in the course of their duty.
- 9(2)(h) to maintain legal professional privilege.

We are withholding two documents in full under section 9(2)(f)(iv) to maintain the constitutional conventions for the time being which protect the confidentiality of advice tendered by Ministers of the Crown and officials.

In terms of section 9(1) of the Act, I am satisfied that, in the circumstances, the withholding of this information is not outweighed by other considerations that render it desirable to make the information available in the public interest.

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

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

Nāku noa, nā,



Jacqui Ruesga
Manager – International Markets
Ministry for the Environment | Manatū Mō Te Taiao

Document schedule

Document no.	Document date	Content	Decisions	OIA sections applied
1	24 January 2024	BRF-4108: Role of international carbon markets	Released in part	S9(2)(f)(iv) S9(2)(d) S9(2)(b)(ii)
2	7 March 2024	BRF-4279: New Zealand's NDC commitment - timeline, implications, and opportunities	Released in part	S9(2)(f)(iv) S9(2)(g)(i) S9(2)(h) S9(2)(b)(ii)
3	28 February 2024	BRF-4250	Withheld in full	S9(2)(f)(iv)
4	28 February 2024	Draft cabinet paper	Withheld in full	S9(2)(f)(iv)