



23 August 2024

9(2)(a)

Dear 9(2)(a)

Thank you for your email of 26 July 2024 requesting the following under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

- *What engagement, if any, has the Ministry of Environment had with māori, iwi, hapū, in drafting the Second Emissions Reduction Plan?*
- *What māori, iwi, hapū, if any, provided advice on the draft Second Emissions Reduction Plan?*
- *What māori-led solutions were provided in drafting the Second Emissions Reduction Plan?*
- *How is Te Tiriti o Waitangi considered in drafting the Second Emissions Reduction Plan?*

I have provided responses to your questions below.

- ***What engagement, if any, has the Ministry of Environment had with māori, iwi, hapū, in drafting the Second Emissions Reduction Plan?***

The Ministry for the Environment has actively engaged with various Māori, iwi, and hapū throughout the development of the Second Emissions Reduction Plan (ERP2). Our engagement has included regional hui, one-on-one meetings, online webinars, and workshops to ensure comprehensive participation and feedback.

Before Consultation

In February and March 2024, the Ministry sent letters to 83 Post Settlement Governance Entities (PSGEs) explaining our intent to engage early in the process. We then met with seven of these PSGEs, who responded expressing interest to meet.

During Consultation

To prepare for the formal consultation, the Ministry sent letters to 123 PSGEs offering one-on-one sessions. We met with 12 of these PSGEs to discuss their perspectives and gather initial feedback. Additionally, the Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI) held a Māori Forestry Workshop in the Bay of Plenty, further contributing to the consultation process.

During the consultation phase, we held a specific Māori Rights and Interests workshop attended by 28 people.

The Minister of Climate Change also discussed ERP2 consultation at the February and May National Iwi Chairs Forum (NICF) quarterly hui.

• *What māori, iwi, hapū, if any, provided advice on the draft Second Emissions Reduction Plan?*

We have received input from a wide range of Māori, iwi, and hapū through the engagements mentioned above. Additionally, we have received formal submissions from Māori stakeholders, which are currently under review.

We continue to work through the feedback received and are committed to including Māori perspectives into the ERP2. Partnering and engaging with Māori will remain a key focus as we finalise the plan.

• *What māori-led solutions were provided in drafting the Second Emissions Reduction Plan?*

The Ministry for the Environment is beginning the process of reviewing feedback received from iwi and Māori communities as part of the ongoing consultation for ERP2. This consultation is still under active consideration, and we are dedicated to ensuring that Māori-led solutions are appropriately reflected in the plan.

The statutory requirements for ERP2 include meaningful consultation with Māori, and we are working to include feedback and solutions proposed by Māori, iwi, and hapū. The final plan, including the incorporation of Māori-led solutions, will be confirmed by Cabinet before the end of the year.

As we are still considering feedback from consultation and providing advice to Ministers, I am withholding information relating to Māori-led solutions under section 9(2)(f)(iv) of the Act, 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.

• How is Te Tiriti o Waitangi considered in drafting the Second Emissions Reduction Plan?

ERP2 seeks to uphold Te Tiriti o Waitangi by embedding its principles—partnership, participation, and active protection—throughout the entire development process. This involves thorough and meaningful consultation with iwi and Māori, ensuring their perspectives shape policy design and implementation.

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.

Yours sincerely



Hemi Smiler

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