



s 9(2)(a)

Tēnā koe s 9(2)(a)

Thank you for your email of 9 January 2023 to the Ministry for the Environment (the Ministry) requesting the following under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

*Please provide information on policy work undertaken or to be done by the Ministry on including New Zealand's military emissions in our Nationally Determined Contributions under the Paris Agreement. Information about the Ministry's engagement with the NZ Defence Force on this issue would also be helpful for my enquiries.*

I must refuse your request under section 18(g)(i) of the Act, as the information you have requested is not held by the Ministry and I have no grounds to believe that the information is held by another department.

Although the Ministry does not hold the information requested, I have included some information below that may be of interest to you.

#### *Reporting of military emissions*

The emissions associated with domestic military activities that occur in New Zealand are included in New Zealand's national greenhouse gas inventory (the inventory). The inventory reports on emissions produced within the New Zealand territory, based on the process that produces the emissions. Any New Zealand Defence Force (NZDF) emissions that occur within New Zealand, therefore, are reported in the inventory. These emissions are reported within the relevant emitting sector. For example, emissions from fuel use are reported under the 'Energy' sector.

Regarding emissions that occur outside of New Zealand's territorial boundary, these are reported in the inventory of the country where the emissions occur. This is the standard methodology for inventorying greenhouse gas emissions, under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.

#### *New Zealand's Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) to the Paris Agreement*

New Zealand's first NDC target is an economy-wide emissions reduction contribution that covers all sectors as reported in the inventory. This includes military emissions that occur domestically. More information on how the NDC is set is available here: <https://environment.govt.nz/what-government-is-doing/international-action/about-the-paris-agreement/new-zealands-nationally-determined-contribution/>.

#### *NZDF is a participant in the Carbon Neutral Government Programme (CNGP)*

The NZDF is participating in the Carbon Neutral Government Programme. The emissions reductions achieved through the programme, alongside other participating public sector organisations, will support the achievement of New Zealand's NDC and other climate targets.

More information on the requirements and timeframes of the CNGP is available here: <https://environment.govt.nz/what-government-is-doing/areas-of-work/climate-change/carbon-neutral-government-programme/about-carbon-neutral-government-programme/>.

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](http://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](mailto:ministerials@mfe.govt.nz).

Ngā mihi



**Megan Hurnard**  
Director – Climate  
Ministry for the Environment | Manatū Mō Te Taiao