



2 February 2024

OIAD-864

9(2)a

Tēnā koe 9(2)a

Thank you for your email of 20 November 2023 to the Ministry for the Environment (the Ministry) requesting the following under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

We refer to the “Review of the New Zealand Emissions Trading Scheme” discussion document (the Discussion Document).

- 1. We request all substantive documents such as briefings, reports, memorandums, and meeting notes / meeting packs (but excluding email correspondence) relating to any meetings involving any Ministers of the Crown and/or their associates (including without limitation the Climate Change Minister, Minister of Forestry and Environment Minister) regarding the Discussion Document.*

The relevant timeframe for this request is from 1 September 2022 to 20 November 2023.

On 18 December 2023, we notified you that the Ministry needed to extend the timeframe to respond to your request under section 15A(1)(b) of the Act due to the need to undertake consultation with other agencies.

The Ministry has interpreted your request as being for all documents (excluding emails) relating to any meetings which discussed the *Review of the New Zealand Emissions Trading Scheme* discussion document (the discussion document). The information we have identified includes information relating to interagency meetings which Ministers were not in attendance at.

We have identified 32 documents in scope of your request, consisting of 10 briefings and 22 meeting documents (agendas, minutes, or attached documents for discussion) as listed in the document schedule and attached as **Annex 1**. Please note that there is not a 1:1 relationship between agendas and minutes, as the discussion document may have been on the agenda but not discussed (and therefore not included in the minutes for that meeting) or discussed and included in the minutes of that meeting without being on the agenda.

We are aware that some of the briefings that we have identified as in scope of your request have already been provided to you by the Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI), and therefore we have not provided you with copies of these documents in our response. They remain listed in the document schedule for your reference. If you require copies of these documents in addition to those provided by MPI, please let us know.

Some information within four of the documents we are releasing has been withheld under the following sections of the Act, as listed the document schedule:

- 9(2)(a) to protect the privacy of natural persons.
- 9(2)(h) to maintain legal professional privilege
- 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



Kara Lok

Manager, Emissions Pricing Policy
Ministry for the Environment | Manatū Mō Te Taiao

Document schedule

Doc no.	Document date	Title	Decision	OIA sections applied / justification
<i>Briefings</i>				
1.	15 Sept 2022	BRF-2200 – Options to lodge CAB-138 – A review of the New Zealand Emission Trading Scheme	Release in part	9(2)(a)
2.	11 Sept 2023	BRF-2806 (MPI ref B23-0597) – Post-consultation update: Review of the NZ ETS and redesign of the permanent forest category	Release in part	9(2)(a) 9(2)(h)
3.	13 Oct 2022	BRF-2300 (MPI ref B22-0593) – NZ ETS review: beginning phase one	Not provided	Our response does not include copies of documents that have already been provided by MPI
4.	4 Nov 2022	BRF-2405 (MPI ref B22-0631) – New Zealand Emission Trading Scheme Review: Progressing Phase One	Not provided	Our response does not include copies of documents that have already been provided by MPI
5.	2 Dec 2022	BRF-2570 (MPI ref B22-0688) – Process for progressing the New Zealand Emission Trading Scheme review in 2023	Not provided	Our response does not include copies of documents that have already been provided by MPI
6.	9 Feb 2023	BRF-2662 (MPI ref B23-0033) – Draft Cabinet Paper: New Zealand Emissions Trading Scheme review – 2023 process update	Not provided	Our response does not include copies of documents that have already been provided by MPI
7.	9 Mar 2023	BRF-2846 (MPI ref B23-0144) – New Zealand Emissions Trading Scheme Review: Draft discussion document	Not provided	Our response does not include copies of documents that have already been provided by MPI
8.	16 Mar 2023	BRF-2922 (MPI ref B23-0208) – NZ ETS Review – updated discussion	Not provided	Our response does not include copies of documents that have

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		document and draft Cabinet paper for Ministerial consultation		already been provided by MPI
9.	30 Mar 2023	BRF-3032 (MPI ref B23-0231) – NZ ETS review: Updated process options	Not provided	Our response does not include copies of documents that have already been provided by MPI
10.	18 May 2023	BRF-3165 (MPI ref B23-0321) – Treaty Partner Feedback on NZ ETS Review and Permanent Forest Category Redesign discussion documents	Not provided	Our response does not include copies of documents that have already been provided by MPI
Meeting documents				
11.	17 Feb 2023	Inter-Agency Directors' ETS Meeting agenda	Release in full	None
12.	17 Feb 2023	Inter-Agency Directors' ETS Meeting minute	Release in part	9(2)(a)
13.	23 Feb 2023	Inter-Agency Directors' ETS Meeting agenda	Release in full	None
14.	1 Mar 2023	Inter-Agency Directors' ETS Meeting agenda	Release in full	None
15.	1 Mar 2023	Inter-Agency Directors' ETS Meeting minute	Release in full	None
16.	6 Mar 2023	ETS Review: Minister Progress Update #3 - Agenda	Release in full	None
17.	6 Mar 2023	Discussion document – ETS Review Options Summary	Release in full	None
18.	9 Mar 2023	Inter-Agency Directors' ETS Meeting agenda	Release in full	None
19.	9 Mar 2023	Inter-Agency Directors' ETS Meeting minute	Release in full	None
20.	13 Mar 2023	Inter-Agency Directors' ETS Meeting minute	Release in full	None

Doc no.	Document date	Title	Decision	OIA sections applied / justification
21.	22 Mar 2023	Inter-Agency Directors' ETS Meeting minute	Release in full	None
22.	29 Mar 2023	Inter-Agency Directors' ETS Meeting minute	Release in full	None
23.	5 Apr 2023	Inter-Agency Directors' ETS Meeting minute	Release in full	None
24.	12 Apr 2023	Inter-Agency Directors' ETS Meeting agenda	Release in full	None
25.	19 Apr 2023	Inter-Agency Directors' ETS Meeting minute	Release in full	None
26.	24 Apr 2023	ETS Review: Minister Progress Update #8 – Agenda	Release in full	None
27.	24 Apr 2023	Discussion item – Emissions Trading Scheme (ETS) Review Phases 1 and 2: Project RAG status	Release in full	None
28.	3 May 2023	Inter-Agency Directors' ETS Meeting minute	Release in part	9(2)(f)(iv)
29.	19 May 2023	ETS Review: Minister Progress Update #9 – Agenda	Release in full	None
30.	19 May 2023	Discussion item – Emissions Trading Scheme (ETS) Review Phases 1 and 2: Project RAG status	Release in full	None
31.	7 Jun 2023	Inter-Agency Directors' ETS Meeting minute	Release in full	None
32.	15 Jun 2023	Inter-Agency Directors' ETS Meeting minute	Release in full	None