



9(2)a

Tēnā koe 9(2)a,

Thank you for your email of 14 February 2024 to the Ministry for the Environment (the Ministry) requesting the following under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

- 1. Please let me know when the second Emissions Reduction Plan will be finalised and published. Please also provide a description of the process, and timeline, for developing the second Emissions Reduction Plan. Please include anticipated dates for Commission advice, drafts to be released, and opportunities for public consultation and input from interested parties.*
- 2. I am also interested in recent, upcoming and proposed changes to the implantation of actions under the existing Emissions Reduction plan. Specifically, I am interested in changes made or proposed since October 2023, which have already been implemented, or which might or will be implemented while the first Emissions Reduction Plan is still in place. I am primarily interested in changes which will have a significant impact, positive or negative, in terms of green house gas emissions. Please provide information such as discussion documents, policy proposals, or decision documents (including internal briefings to Ministry leadership, Ministerial documents and Cabinet documents) relating to these changes. Please include in your response, comments on possible or actual changes to:
 - a. the Carbon Neutral Government Programme.*
 - b. the State Sector Decarbonisation Fund.*
 - c. the Climate Emergency Response Fund.*
 - d. any other material changes to the implementation of the major actions listed on page 10 of the first Emissions Reduction Plan.*
 - e. any other material changes to the key actions within the first Emissions Reduction Plan which MFE are responsible for, including in relation to waste reduction and fluorinated gases.**

The Government is currently working towards publishing the second emissions reduction plan (ERP2). This plan is expected to be published before the end of 2024. The ERP2 intends to include policies and strategies for meeting the next emissions budget (2026-2030) which is a key step towards our 2050 goal.

Government officials are currently planning for public consultation on the draft plan, and this is expected to occur later this year. Details will be made available publicly ahead of consultation. I encourage you to participate in the public consultation process and share your view to help shape our country's emissions reduction efforts.

In addition to ERP2, the Climate Change Commission will also be expecting to publicly consult on the [draft advice on the fourth emissions budget \(2036-2040\)](#) from April – May of this year. Included in this draft advice would be the 2024 review of the 2050 emissions target

and whether emissions from international aviation and shipping should be included in the 2050 target.

I must refuse the second part of your request to the Ministry under section 18(g)(i) of the Act as the Ministry does not hold any information specific to our agency relating to changes made or proposed since October 2023, which have already been implemented, or which might or will be implemented while the first Emissions Reduction Plan is still in place.

I note, however, that your request also extends to the Climate Change Chief Executives Board (the Board), which the Ministry for the Environment is the host agency for. A key role of the Board is to report on the delivery of actions in ERP1 and the national adaptation plan. In these reports, the Board provides collective advice on risks and opportunities to delivering on these plans and how we are tracking against our climate goals and targets. Published reports can be found on our webpage: [Climate Change Chief Executives Board released material | Ministry for the Environment](#). Future reports will be produced on a quarterly cadence and proactively released once they have been considered by Ministers.

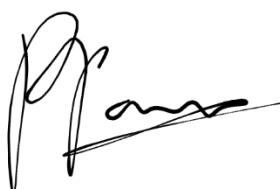
The Board holds three documents in scope of your request, as per the attached document schedule. All three documents are being withheld in full under section 9(2)(f)(iv) of the Act to maintain the constitutional conventions for the time being which protect the confidentiality of advice tendered by Ministers 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.

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 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.

Ngā mihi,



Patricia Parre
Manager – Mitigation Policy
Ministry for the Environment | Manatū Mō Te Taiao

Document schedule

Document no.	Document date	Content	Decisions	OIA sections applied
1	5 December 2023	Updated sufficiency analysis	Withheld in full	9(2)(f)(iv)
2	13 March 2024	Draft Quarterly Progress Report to Climate Priorities Ministerial Group March 2024	Withheld in full	9(2)(f)(iv)
3	29 February 2024	Draft paper	Withheld in full (including title)	9(2)(f)(iv)