**Climate implications of policy assessment: Early engagement form**

**Background**

The climate implications of policy assessment (CIPA) is a requirement on central government agencies to carry out and report on the greenhouse gas (GHG) emission impacts of policy proposals that go to Cabinet. The requirement applies for policy proposals where:

* a reduction in greenhouse gas emissions is an explicit objective of the proposal

and/or:

* the impact on greenhouse gas emissions is likely to be equal or above 0.5 million tonnes CO2-e within the first ten years of the proposal period (representing an annual average of 50,000 tonnes)
* for forestry-related proposals, the impact on greenhouse gas emissions is likely to be equal or above 3 million tonnes of CO2-e within the first 30 years of the proposal period (representing an annual average of 100,000 tonnes).

More information on CIPA can be found at <https://environment.govt.nz/guides/climate-implications-of-policy-assessment-guidance-on-cabinet-requirement-for-central-government-agencies/>.

Compliance with this requirement is supported by the CIPA team at the Ministry for the Environment.

**Purpose of this form**

The purpose of this early engagement form is to support policy officials considering whether a climate implications of policy assessment needs to be completed.

**Instructions for completing the form**

Please answer the questions below.

If you answer yes to any of the questions, please email a completed copy of this form to [cipa@mfe.govt.nz](file:///C:/Users/mansonje/AppData/Roaming/OpenText/OTEdit/EC_tepuna/c11677008/mailto_cipa@mfe.govt%20(2).nz) with a brief explanation of what the policy is. The Ministry for the Environment will respond with further information as to whether the policy is subject to further analysis through the CIPA requirement.

If you are unsure how to fill in the form, please contact the Ministry for the Environment at [cipa@mfe.govt.nz](file:///C:/Users/mansonje/AppData/Roaming/OpenText/OTEdit/EC_tepuna/c11677008/mailto_cipa@mfe.govt%20(2).nz).

**Regulatory proposals**

For regulatory proposals, CIPA represents an additional, complementary requirement to RIA requirements. For regulatory proposals, the CIPA early engagement questions are included as part of the regulatory impact assessment (RIA) process confirmation form.

You do not need to send a separate early engagement form to the CIPA team at the Ministry for the Environment.

The Ministry for Regulation has now been established, and on 1 May 2024, the Treasury Regulatory Strategy Team transferred to this new Ministry. The regulatory impact assessment (RIA) system will continue to operate as normal, including the RIA online process, but with a new contact email address now in place – [ria.team@regulation.govt.nz](mailto:ria.team@regulation.govt.nz). The team has noted there will be some work with the transfer and staffing changes, so may be slower than normal to respond to queries.

**Key questions**

| **Name/title of policy proposal or policy option** |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Agency responsible for the Cabinet paper** |  |

|  | **Yes/no/unsure** | **Comment if needed** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Is a reduction in greenhouse gas emissions an explicit objective of the proposal? |  |  |

| **Could any of the policy options considered have a significant impact on greenhouse gas emissions (increases or decreases) in the following sectors?:** | **Yes/no/unsure** | **Comment if needed** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Electricity**, for example, policies that have an impact on:   * renewable sources to replace fossil fuels in electricity generation * a change in the amount of electricity demanded, for example the building of a factory * the electrification of process heat[[1]](#footnote-2) * geothermal carbon capture and storage * energy efficiency of buildings. |  |  |
| **Transport**, for example, policies that have an impact on:   * total vehicle kilometres travelled by internal combustion engine vehicles (including public transport) * fuel switching from fossil fuels to lower emission alternatives, such as electricity (battery), hydrogen and biofuels * transport mode change (passenger and freight) * electric vehicle uptake. |  |  |
| **Waste**, for example:   * policies that will result in an increase or decrease in waste going to landfill. |  |  |
| **Agriculture**, for example, policies that have an impact on:   * amounts and types of livestock on farms * use of nitrogen fertiliser. |  |  |
| **Land use**, for example, policies that have an impact on:   * amount of land converted to or from forest land * regenerating native forest * changes in forest type or species. |  |  |
| **Industrial processes and product use**, for example, policies that have an impact on   * use of greenhouse-gas-emitting process heat fuels and fuel-switching to biomass * energy efficiency in process heat * the use of construction materials. |  |  |

Note: the listed examples are not an exhaustive list of all sources or activities associated with greenhouse gas emissions and are provided as indicative examples.

1. Process heat is energy that is primarily used for warming spaces and industrial processes, often in the form of steam, hot water or hot gases. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)