

Hon James Shaw
Minister of Climate Change
Parliament Buildings
Wellington

12 October 2023

Tēnā koe Minister

I am writing to acknowledge receipt of your letter dated 9 October 2023. Your letter requests advice from the Climate Change Commission (**Commission**) under Section 5K of the Climate Change Response Act (the **Act**) in relation to New Zealand's second Nationally Determined Contribution (**NDC2**), and the associated final Terms of Reference. On behalf of the Commission, I accept the Terms of Reference. As required under the Act, subject to noting by the Board of the Commission, I will publish your letter requesting the advice and Terms of Reference on our website along with this acknowledgment.

The Commission agrees that the approach in the Terms of Reference can build on the Commission's previous advice on New Zealand's first Nationally Determined Contribution. The analysis outlined in the Terms of Reference should help provide the Government with the information base required for it to make sound judgements in the context of setting a second NDC for Aotearoa New Zealand that is consistent with its obligations under the Paris Agreement and demonstrates coherence with its domestic actions.

As acknowledged in your letter, your request for advice constitutes an additional piece of work in the already full work programme for the Commission. Delivery of this advice will require significant additional time and resources from the Commission which has not been anticipated, or accounted for, in the work programme for 2024. It is critical that any extra pieces of work are additionally and appropriately resourced to ensure the Commission is able to deliver all of its statutory advice within the agreed and legislatively specified timeframes. Based on the Commission's current resources, budget and work programme, the Commission is unable to begin the substantive work on this advice in the absence of additional funding, though note that preliminary work such as scoping and planning for the advice requested could be carried out within existing resources. It is also important to note that delays in confirming funding will have an impact on our ability to deliver this additional piece of advice within the timeframes set out. With this in mind, and recognising the independence of the Commission, we look forward to working with officials to explore resourcing options to enable the full delivery of the advice.

The Commission remains committed to providing independent, evidence-based advice to the Government of the day to guide Aotearoa New Zealand's transition to a thriving, climate-resilient, low emissions future.

Nāku noa, nā



Dr Rod Carr
Chair, Climate Change Commission
On behalf of the Climate Change Commission