



Ref: OIA 2024-026



21 June 2024

Kia ora 

Thank you for your email of 4 June 2024 in relation to our response to you on the same day (OIA2024-021). You asked the following:

“Would it be a conflict of interest for a climate commissioner's partner to be actively involved in coal mining lobbying?”

Under the OIA if this was interfering with the role of that commissioner, what action beyond discussion and the register would be taken under current policy.

What external oversight is there?”

The Commission has considered this request in accordance with the Official Information Act.

As you have previously been advised, any conflict of interest relating to a Commissioner is managed in accordance with the Commission’s Interests policy and all conflicts of interest are made publicly available – both of these are published [here](#).

Furthermore, as part of the Annual Review and Estimates process, the Commission reports to the Environment Select Committee about conflicts of interest (inter alia), on an annual basis. Copies of our responses can be found [here](#).

It is important to note that the Commission has responded to multiple requests from you relating to Commissioner conflicts of interest since September 2021. In response to these requests we have directed you to our publicly available information relating to conflicts of interest, and provided you with the Commission’s relevant policies and links to pertinent Board meetings. The Commission does not hold any further information on this topic, over and above that which has already been supplied to you.

If you are dissatisfied with this response, you have the right to seek an investigation and review of it by the Office of the Ombudsman, in accordance with section 28(3) of the Act. Contact details for the Ombudsman can be found on their website at: www.ombudsman.parliament.nz

Please note that the Commission proactively releases its responses to requests made under the Act. This is to help ensure others can also have access to this information. As such, this letter will shortly be published on our website with your name and contact details redacted to protect your privacy.

Ngā mihi



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