



Ref: OIA 2026-014

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

11 September 2026

Tēnā koe [REDACTED]

Thank you for your request of 15 August 2026 seeking the following information under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

"Timeframe: 1 January 2024 to the date of this request.

I seek technical analysis, models, scenario work, sensitivity analysis, commissioned research and substantive briefings concerning the risk that emissions-reduction technologies or behavioural changes assumed in New Zealand mitigation pathways are delayed, underperform, or are adopted more slowly than expected.

Please provide existing records addressing:

- 1. agricultural methane technologies, including vaccines, inhibitors, breeding/genetics, feed/forage options and farm-system changes;*
- 2. industrial fuel-switching, electrification, carbon capture, biomass, renewable fuels or other major industrial mitigation technologies;*
- 3. forestry/removal assumptions and risks where removals are lower or delayed;*
- 4. sensitivity analysis showing the effect of slower technology deployment or uptake on emissions budgets, the 2050 target or the 2030 NDC;*
- 5. analysis of the economic, distributional or transition consequences of delaying emissions reductions and then requiring faster adjustment later;*
- 6. analysis of investment lock-in, long lead times, stranded assets or reduced optionality caused by delayed mitigation;*
- 7. any assessment of which mitigation assumptions are commercially available now, dependent on regulatory approval, at demonstration/prototype stage, or otherwise uncertain;*
- 8. any internal risk register or equivalent record identifying material delivery risks to meeting emissions budgets or targets."*

The Commission has considered your request in accordance with the Act.



Response

We have responded to your request referencing the numbered bullet points above.

Parts 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, and 7

The Commission has identified information within scope of these parts of your request. This information is publicly available and as such, we rely on section 18(d) of the Act to not provide it here. These publications discuss mitigation pathways, technology assumptions, sectoral emissions reductions, delivery risks, and uncertainties relating to agriculture, industry, and forestry/removals.

Relevant information can be found in:

- [Report on the potential domestic contribution to Aotearoa New Zealand's second nationally determined contribution.](#)
 - Sectoral actions and impacts, Energy and Industrial processes and product use (pp 8-16)
 - Agriculture, Waste and Forests (pp 21-29)
- [Advice on Aotearoa New Zealand's fourth emissions budget](#)
 - Chapter 3, Recommended level for the fourth emissions budget
 - Chapter 4, Developing the path to the fourth emissions budget
 - Chapter 5, Sector contributions to meeting the fourth emissions budget
- [ENZ assumptions log for draft Aotearoa New Zealand's fourth emissions budget advice](#)
 - Contains assumptions and detailed modelling inputs which were used to create the scenarios and paths and undertake sensitivity analysis in the ENZ model for the Report on the potential domestic contribution to Aotearoa New Zealand's second nationally determined contribution.
- [ENZ results for draft Aotearoa New Zealand's fourth emissions budget advice](#)
 - Contains ENZ modelling results for the reference scenario, long-term scenarios to 2050, EB4 demonstration path and alternative paths for the Report on the potential domestic contribution to Aotearoa New Zealand's second nationally determined contribution.
- [The Commission's Emissions Reduction Monitoring reports](#)
 - Each report assesses the risks to achieving the emissions reductions in government projections. Across the 2024-2026 monitoring reports, these assessments are presented in three sector chapters and summarised in the overview. Please note, that the chapter names have varied between reports, the current chapters are Energy, Industry and Buildings, Agriculture, and Forestry.

In relation to part 7 of your request, in developing its advice, the Commission also draws on publicly available information prepared by the Ministry for Primary Industries regarding emerging agricultural greenhouse gas mitigation technologies. You may find the following resource helpful: [Accelerating new greenhouse gas mitigations](#)

Part 5

The Commission does not hold information that specifically analyses the economic, distributional, or transition consequences of delaying emissions reductions and subsequently requiring faster adjustment at a later date. Accordingly we rely on section 18(e) of the Act, not provide it here, as it does not exist.

Part 8

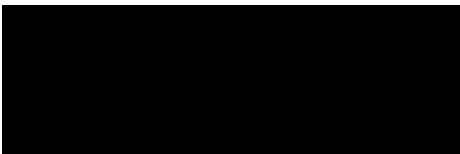
The Commission has interpreted this part of your request as seeking records that identify and assess material risks to meeting emissions budgets and emissions reduction targets. The Commission does not maintain a separate risk register for this purpose. Rather, the Commission's assessment of delivery risks is

contained within its annual [Emissions Reduction Monitoring reports](#), which identify and assess risks affecting New Zealand's progress towards meeting emissions budgets and emissions reduction targets. This information is publicly available and we rely on section 18(d) of the Act to not provide it here.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review of this response 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.

Nāku noa, nā



Grant Blackwell
Chief Science Adviser