Webinar

Emissions reduction monitoring 2026

27 July 2026

MC: Meriana Johnsen, Senior Advisor – Communications & engagement
Robin Campbell, GM – Delivery Group
Rob Carr, Project Director

He Pou a Rangi
Climate Change Commission

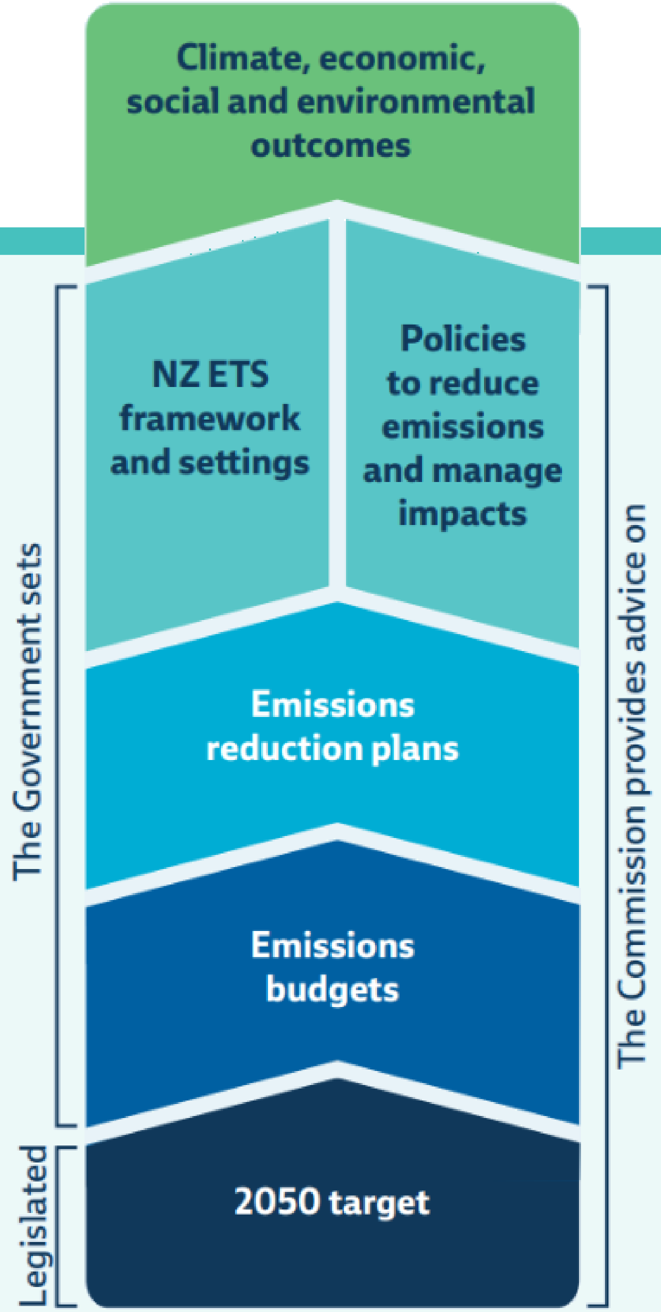
Our role

Independent and evidence-based

Annual monitoring and reporting

Supporting parliamentary accountability

Supporting well-informed decisions on long-term challenges



Our work programme

Adaptation

National Climate Risk Assessment

Identify the most significant risks from current and future effects of climate change, to inform the next National Adaptation Plan.

Released May 2026

Adaptation Progress Assessment

Assess the implementation and effectiveness of the Government's National Adaptation Plan.

Due 1 August 2026

Emissions reduction (mitigation)

NZ ETS unit limits and price settings

Recommend limits on units available and price controls for New Zealand Emissions Trading Scheme (NZ ETS) auctions.

Released April 2026

Emissions budget advice – update

Advising on the country's emissions goal for 2036–2040, and whether earlier budgets should be revised.

Due March 2027

What we monitor and why

Purpose	Requirements
What’s measured, gets managed	Emissions and removals
Course-correction	Projections
Accountability	Assessment of adequacy, progress, and new opportunities

Broader context

Assessment as at 1 April

Increasing climate impacts

Uncertainty in geopolitics

Improving costs and availability of technology

Disruption to fossil fuel supply chains and falling domestic gas supply

Key findings

Emissions are falling, but progress stalled in 2024.
The next 12–24 months matter

2×
Emissions cuts must more than double

12–24
months — the window to act

High risk
Budgets 2&3; 2030 methane target off track

3
Months for the Government to respond

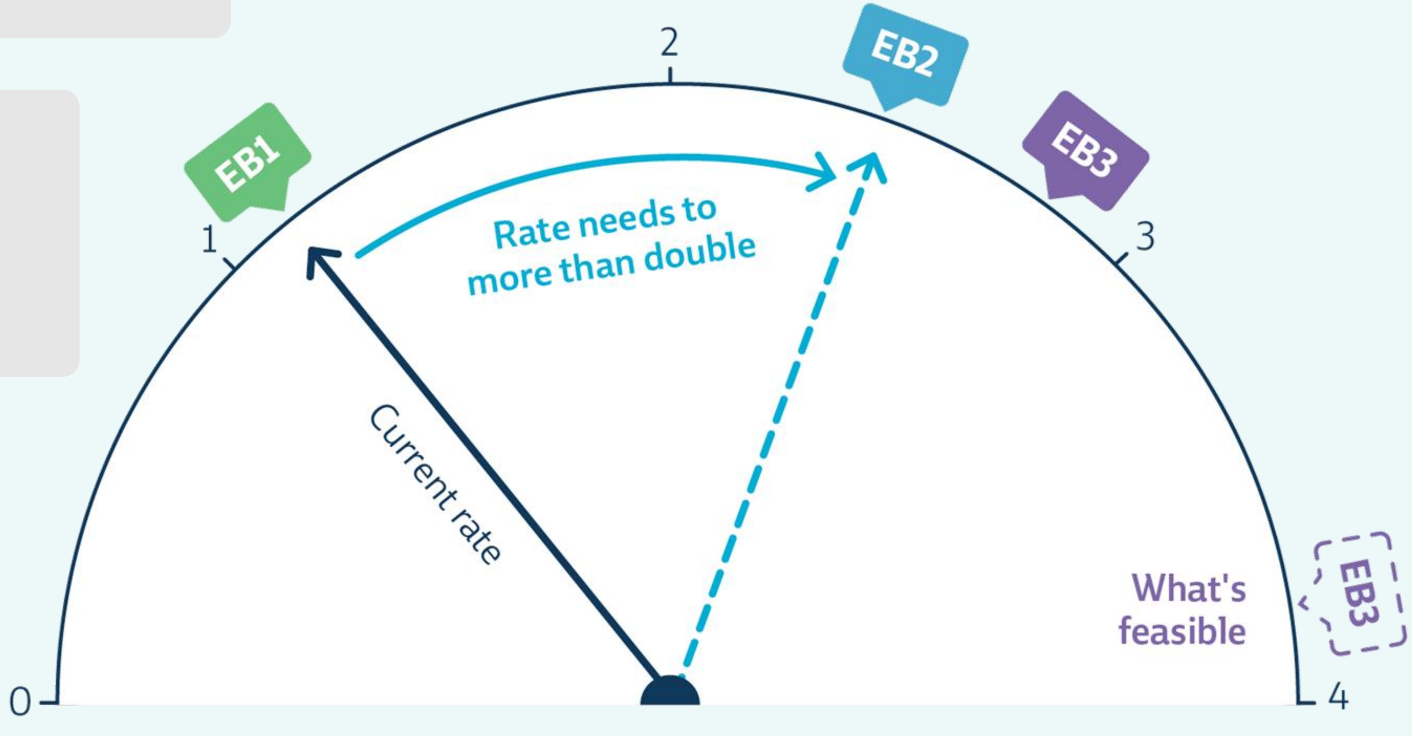
The upside: low-emissions options (EVs, heat pumps, solar) are already cheaper over time and build resilience

Progress – the emissions

After falling since 2019, progress on gross emissions **stalled in 2024**

To meet the budgets, the rate of reduction must **more than double**

The window to act is the **next 12 to 24 months**

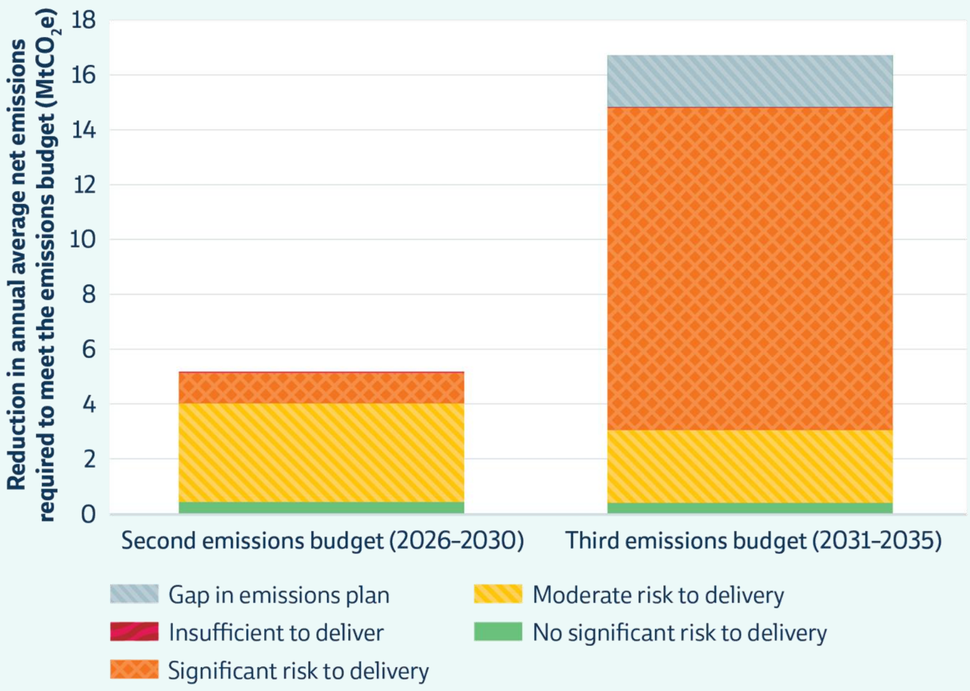


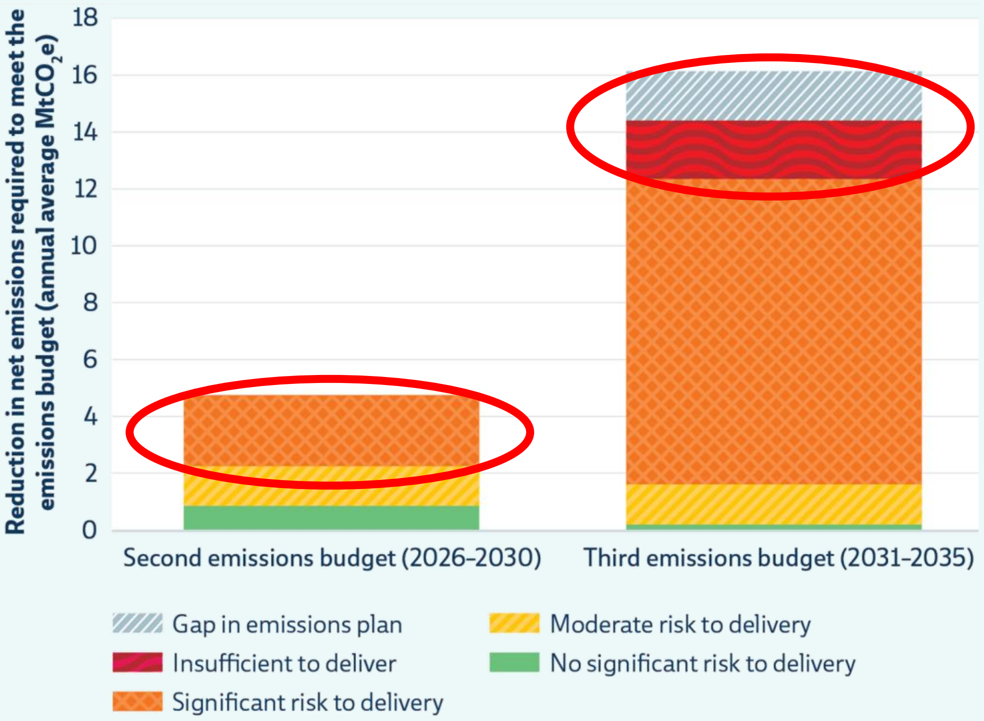
Progress – the policy

Reduce	Increase	Not clear
• Improved energy regulation	• Agriculture excluded from emissions pricing	• Ministry merger (new MCERT)
• RUC exemption for electric heavy vehicles	• Clean Vehicle Standard weakened	• Resource management reform
• Time-of-use charging enabled	• Higher climate-reporting threshold	
• Gas Transition Loan Guarantee*	• Refrigerant stewardship delayed	
• AgriZeroNZ Early Adoption*	• LNG import facility commitment	

Risk has risen in last year

- Risk has **increased**, especially for agriculture, electricity generation and transport.
- The second and third emissions budgets are now at **high risk**.
- The 2030 biogenic methane target is **unlikely to be met**.





Opportunities

- Many low-emissions technologies would make households and businesses more resilient to rising costs and future shocks.
- The Government has low-cost options to reduce barriers preventing people taking them up.

Industry

- Industrial heat pumps
- Batteries and flexible demand
- Biomass boilers
- Waste diversion

Homes

- Electric heat pumps
- Insulation
- Solar and battery systems
- Reducing food waste, composting

Farms

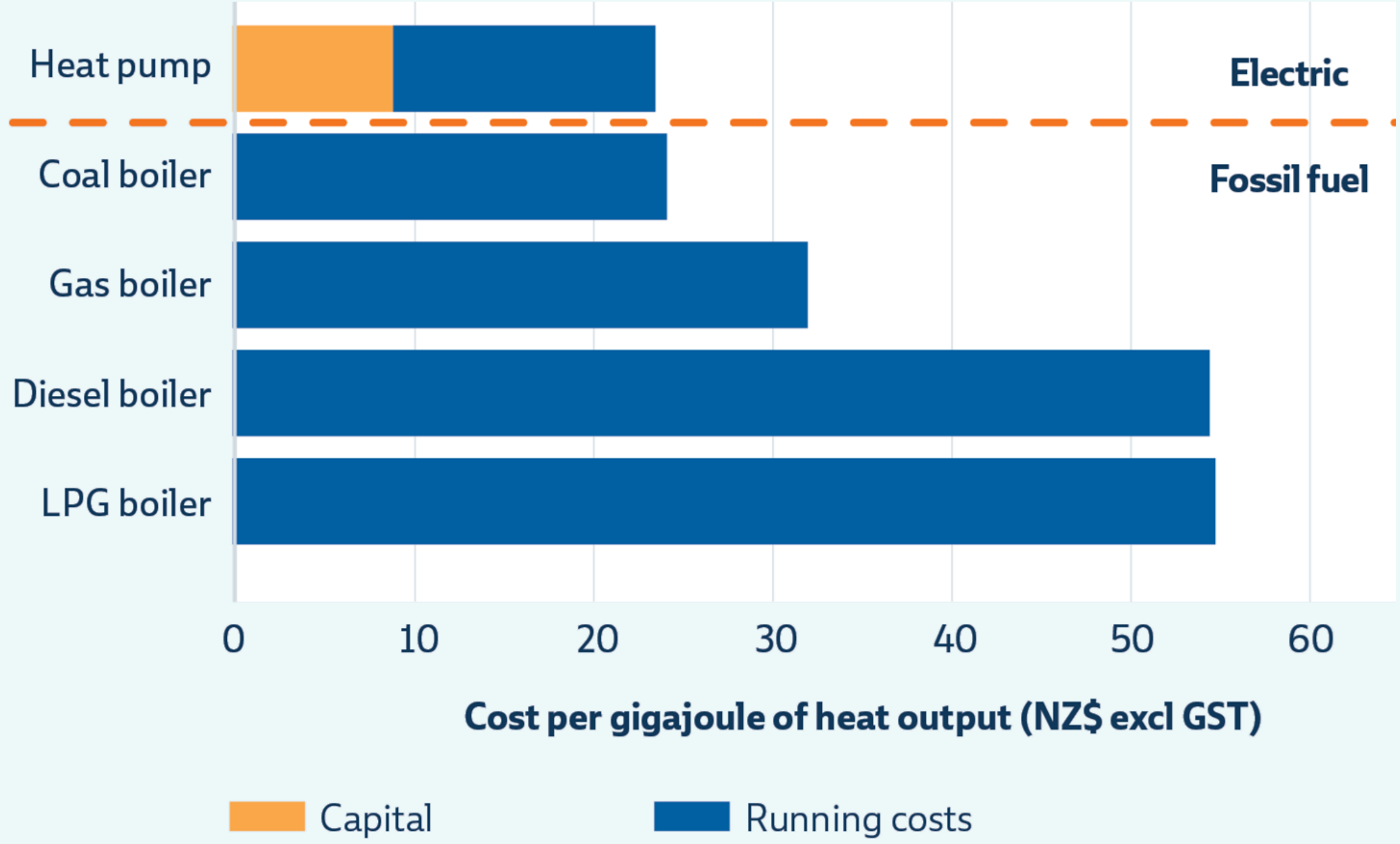
- Efficient fertiliser use
- Lower-emissions practices
- Improved sheep genetics
- Solar on farms

Transport

- Electric vehicles
- Public transport
- Walking and cycling
- Electric light and medium trucks

It's now cheaper to run a heat pump than a fossil boiler

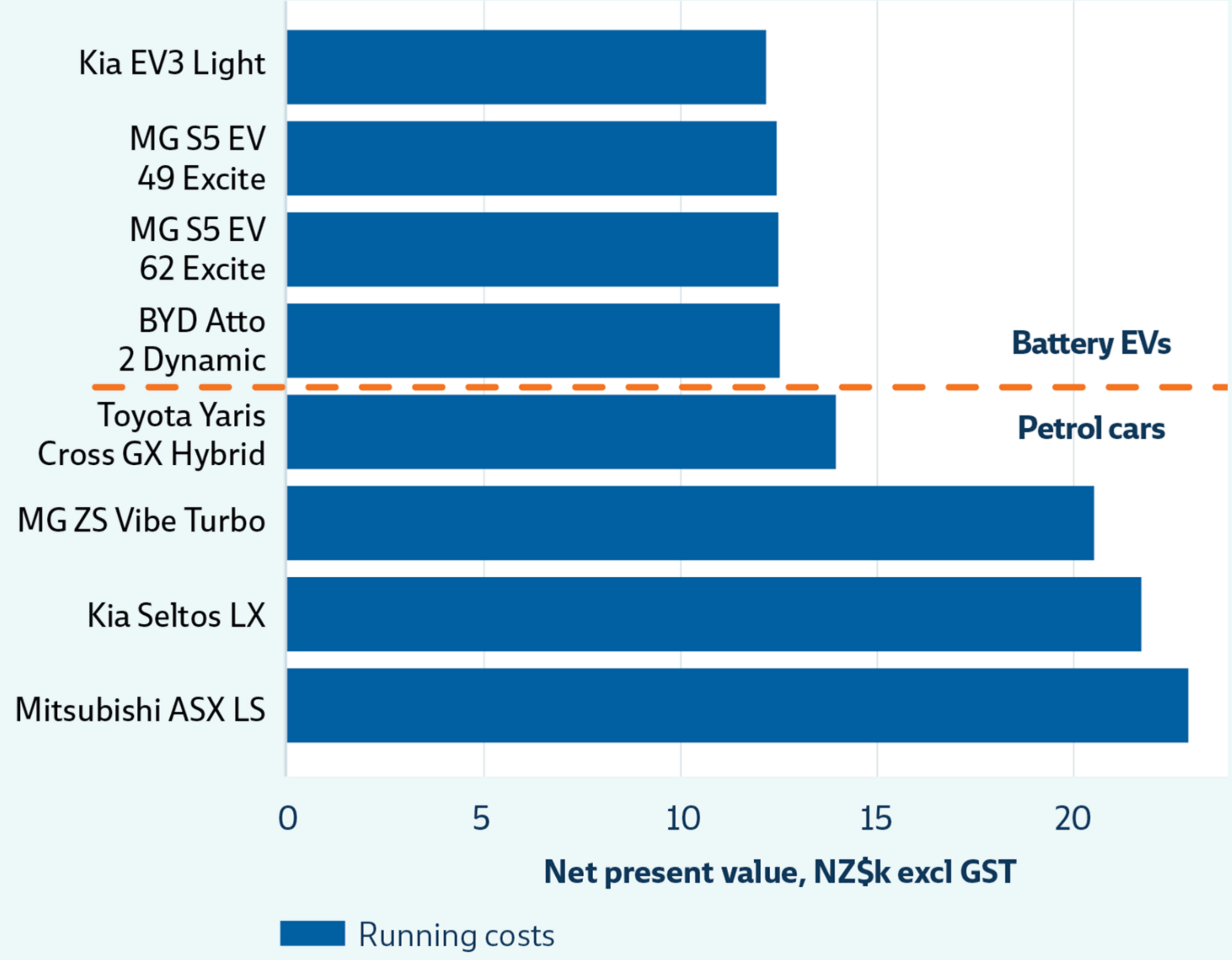
Heat pumps now cost 40 to 50% less to run than coal or gas, often cheaper to replace even before the old boiler retires.



Transport opportunities

EVs are cheaper to run than petrol vehicles and upfront costs have dropped.

For comparable compact SUVs, owners see savings of about **$7,500 over 5 years**.



Recommendation 1

We recommend that the Government takes action to address market barriers and failures within the next year to ensure it can meet its emissions goals including:

- NZ ETS reform
- Primary sector support + reduce barriers
- Barriers to fuel-switching
- Expand waste measures
- EVs, public & active transport

Recommendation 2

We recommend that the Government update its approach to emissions projections to ensure they provide a robust indication of likely future policy impact.

What's next

The Government has 3 months to respond.

Resources available via **climatecommission.govt.nz/erm-2026**

One-page A3	Summarises key findings, facts and figures
Summaries	At a glance, 6x sector summaries & whakahekenga rehukino summary
Main report	Sets out the Commission's findings in full
Technical Annex + data	Technical annex sets out more detail on methods and data & we've released data we've relied on

Any questions?