Hon James Shaw

Minister of Climate Change
Associate Minister for the Environment (Biodiversity)



9 October 2023

Dr Rod Carr

Chair of the Climate Change Commission | He Pou a Rangi

By email: Roderick.Carr@climatecommission.govt.nz

Tēnā koe Rod,

Further to my letter of 12 September, I am writing to confirm my request for advice from the Climate Change Commission on New Zealand's second Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC2) and to provide the terms of reference for this request.

REPORT ON NDC2

I make this request under s5K of the Climate Change Response Act 2002 (the Act), which provides for the Minister of Climate Change to request reports from the Commission on matters relating to climate change.

The purpose of this request is to support the government to determine the level of NDC2, as per the Paris Agreement requirements.

I am requesting the Commission provide advice to help identify possible NDC2 levels compatible with the global 1.5°C goal and to understand the potential impacts from different levels of domestic emission reductions in the NDC2 period.

I am not asking the Commission to make a decision on what would be the most appropriate NDC2 for New Zealand, which is a decision the Government will make based on a wide range of factors. I am seeking the Commission's advice on NDC2 alongside its advice on emission budgets and the 2050 target.

The purpose of this request is to provide the Government with a full package of independent, expert advice from the Commission on New Zealand's long-term climate goal and the international and domestic steps to take us towards that goal.

NEXT STEPS

I expect your advice to be delivered by 31 December 2024. I encourage you to align this advice alongside the related advice on New Zealand's 2050 target and emissions budgets as much as possible.

Following consultation with you on these requests for advice under section 5K(2) of the Act, I have finalised the terms of reference for this work. The terms of reference are attached to this letter, and I expect you to make them publicly available in accordance with section 5K(3)(a) of the Act.

I acknowledge that in order to deliver this advice, given the Commission's existing significant work programme for 2024, the Commission will likely require additional resourcing. Officials at the Ministry for the Environment will continue to engage with you on this matter.

Nāku noa, na,

Hon. James Shaw

Minister of Climate Change