



OIA ref: 2021-033

Privacy

7 July 2021

Kia ora Privacy

Thank you for your email of 9 June 2021 in which you requested the following under the Official Information Act (OIA):

*“any advice sought or received outlining the process undertaken by the Commission that concluded with the recalling of natural gas, and the analysis completed by the Commission that justified and/or led to the need to relabel natural gas.”*

I also acknowledge your letter dated 15 June 2021 to Dr Rod Carr, Chair of the Climate Change Commission Board, in which you raise the same issue.

The Commission did not receive, nor did it seek advice on this change in terminology. In order to more clearly differentiate high emissions fossil fuels from their lower emissions alternatives (such as biogas and green hydrogen), the Commission decided to use the term fossil gas rather than natural gas.

This decision was not explicitly minuted. The change in terminology was formally signed-off by the Board as part of a larger package of changes to the Transport and Heat, Industry and Power chapters. Approval of this larger package of changes is recorded in the minutes of the Commission’s Board Meeting of 11 May 2021, which is available at <https://ccc-production-media.s3.ap-southeast-2.amazonaws.com/public/Board-minutes-11-12-May-2021-board-meeting-minutes.pdf>. The final advice, with all amendments made, was then approved by the Board on 24 May 2021.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision. Information about how to make a complaint is available at [www.ombudsman.parliament.nz](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz) or freephone 0800 802 602.

Please note that the Commission has a policy to proactively release OIA responses to help others have access to more information. Consequently, this letter will be published on our website with your name and contact details redacted to protect your privacy.

Kind regards

privacy

Climate Change Commission

