

OIA 2021-056

Privacy

28 October 2021

Tēnā koe Privacy

On 5 October 2021, the Minister for Climate Change transferred the following Official Information Act (OIA) request to the Climate Change Commission:

“Under the oia could I please have minutes from any meetings or discussions between the climate minister and the climate commission regarding a climate commissioners connections to the coal mining industry on the West Coast. What actions has the climate minister taken?

What policies does the Climate Commission have to ensure industry capture/greenwash doesn't occur?

Could I please have information regarding how many Pasifika staff the climate commission has and how many climate commissioners are Pasifika.

Lastly I am requesting information regarding the climate qualifications of the Chair and deputy chair of the Climate Commission.”

Responses to your request are included below.

Under the oia could I please have minutes from any meetings or discussions between the climate minister and the climate commission regarding a climate commissioners connections to the coal mining industry on the West Coast. What actions has the climate minister taken?

The Commission’s Chair Dr Rodd Carr and Chief Executive Jo Hendy meet regularly with Hon James Shaw as Minister of Climate Change to discuss a range of topics. The Commission holds no minutes from these meetings.

What policies does the Climate Commission have to ensure industry capture/greenwash doesn't occur?

The Climate Change Response Act requires us to proactively engage with persons we consider relevant to our work (see [section 5N\(1\)\(a\)](#)). Engaging with diverse groups of people across industry, academic areas and the wider community is fundamental to our work. The Commission has a range of processes in place to ensure we maintain our independence throughout our work.

Could I please have information regarding how many Pasifika staff the climate commission has and how many climate commissioners are Pasifika.

Staff are given the opportunity to identify with an ethnicity when commencing work at the Commission. Acknowledging that this process is voluntary the Commission currently has no staff that identify as Pasifika. With respect to the Commissioners the Ministry for the Environment, who administers the Board appointments process, has advised that none of the current Commissioners identified as Pasifika at the time of appointment. Please note that general information on the background of all of our Commissioners is available on our website ([here](#)).

Lastly I am requesting information regarding the climate qualifications of the Chair and deputy chair of the Climate Commission.

As indicated in response to your previous question, qualifications and backgrounds on our Chair, Dr Rod Carr, and Deputy Chair, Ms Lisa Tumahai, are publicly available on our website. As such, I am refusing this part of your request under section 18(d) of the Act, as the information requested is publicly available. The Commission's other Commissioners also bring a wealth of experience from diverse backgrounds, including academic, climate mitigation and adaptation and scientific expertise. Their profiles are also available on the Climate Change Commission website.

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 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.

Ngā mihi
Privacy



Climate Change Commission