



Ref: OIA 2025-001

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

13 March 2025

Tēnā koe [REDACTED]

Thank you for your request of 13 February 2025 seeking the following information:

- "1. Any advice, information or submissions provided to the Minister for Climate Change, or the Ministry for the Environment in relation to the setting of the second Nationally Determined Contribution under the Paris Agreement (NDC2) that is not already publicly available*
- 2. The notes of any meetings between Commission staff and the Ministry/Minister in relation to the setting of NDC2*
- 3. Any internal Commission analysis, advice, evaluation or commentary on NDC2, including any assessment of the level of ambition"*

The Climate Change Commission has considered your request in accordance with the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act).

Response

The Climate Change Response Act 2002 does not require the Commission to provide regularly scheduled advice about Aotearoa New Zealand's Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC). However, the Minister of Climate Change can request advice from the Commission under [section 5K of the Act](#).

In June 2024, the Minister requested a report from the Commission to help inform the Government's decision on the second NDC (NDC2). The Terms of Reference for this report asked the Commission to look at the levels of domestic emissions reduction that Aotearoa New Zealand could feasibly achieve as part of the NDC2.

The request from the Minister, the agreed terms of reference, the report itself and supporting technical documents are all available on our website at the following link: [Report on the potential domestic contribution to Aotearoa New Zealand's second nationally determined contribution \(2024\) » Climate Change Commission](#).

The Commission's final report presented domestic emissions scenarios from our draft advice on the Fourth Emissions Budget, described associated actions and impacts across sectors, and calculated the contribution domestic reductions could make to NDC2. This report was one piece of evidence considered by Government, as it determined what the NDC2 for Aotearoa New Zealand would be.



It is important to note that the Commission is not responsible for setting Aotearoa New Zealand's NDC under the Paris Agreement or advising on the level at which the NDC should be set. The Commission's role is to inform the Government's decision-making in this regard, when requested.

Aside from the above outlined report, no information was provided to the Minister of Climate Change or the Ministry for the Environment (MfE) in relation to the setting of the NDC2.

The Commission has not prepared any internal analysis, advice, evaluation or commentary on the NDC2, nor has it prepared any assessment of the level of ambition.

Our engagement with the Ministry for the Environment in developing our report was related to the scope of the analysis and technical details of different target presentation methodologies.

The Commission gave a presentation to relevant MfE staff which summarised our final report. The Commission's Chief Executive and Board Chair met with the Minister of Climate Change on 29 October 2024 to brief the Minister on the report. This engagement is consistent with the Commission's role of providing advice to help inform Government decisions, and explaining the detail of our work as requested. This meeting was not in relation to setting the NDC2.

I am therefore unable to provide you with the information you seek in your request, as no such information exists. This decision is made under section 18(e) of the Act.

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



Fran Lovell
Acting General Manager, Corporate Accountability and Operations