

19-D-02509
19-D-02216

Chris Johnston

Dear Chris

Thank you for your email of 30 September 2019 requesting the following under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

Dear Ministry for the Environment, Please provide any records (including but not limited to internal/external: documents, emails, notes, minutes, text messages, or social media messages) mentioning scientists Dr Ronan Connolly and/or Michael Connolly and/or Christopher Monckton. For context - so that you can correctly identify the individuals - some links relevant to their work are mentioned in the links below. 1) This is the presentation of their findings that Earth's atmosphere is in thermo-dynamic equilibrium (directly opposite to a key IPCC assumption), and therefore CO2 cannot have any significant effect on the temperature of Earth's atmosphere. <https://youtu.be/XfRBr7PEawY> or <https://t.co/FoIJ8vWmGL?amp=1> 2) This is the Connolly's blog site where they publish their results: <https://globalwarmingsolved.com/> 3) This is where their empirical discovery is talked about by Christopher Monckton as a potential Nobel Prize winning paper (once published). https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=1103&v=k6iOOuZCE_Y or <https://t.co/qPBhw9GoID?amp=1>.

This response has also taken into consideration the following points you have raised in your follow up request of 04 November 2019:

1) Combined response - I asked for responses to be separate. Combining the responses makes it harder to establish whether the question has been answered. Please do not combine your responses to separate requests. It frustrates the requester and those people that may access this OIA request at a later date.

*2) Excluding responses to the Select Committee that are publicly available. If you follow this link you will discover that the Parliamentary Select Committee web page is only searchable by keyword of the author - and not content. Therefore I cannot even find submissions that I know are there by searching for keywords included in the text. For example:
<https://www.parliament.nz/en/pb/sc/submissions-and-advice/?criteria.Keyword=nikolov&criteria.Author=Environment+Committee&criteria.ParliamentNumber=-1&criteria.Timeframe=&criteria.DateFrom=&criteria.DateTo=>*

3) Information in previous OIAs excluded - I have previously submitted an OIA but records mentioned in that OIA were not included in this one. <https://fyi.org.nz/request/9425-all-documents-mentioning-climate-scientists-nikolov-and-or-zeller>

The Ministry for the Environment has identified 16 documents in scope of your request, as listed in the attached table. Some information within these documents has been withheld under the following sections of the Act:

9(2)(a) to protect the privacy of natural persons

In terms of section 9(1) of the Act, I am satisfied that, in the circumstances, the withholding of this information is not outweighed by other considerations that render it desirable to make the information available in the public interest.

Some out of scope information has also been removed from the documents being released to you.

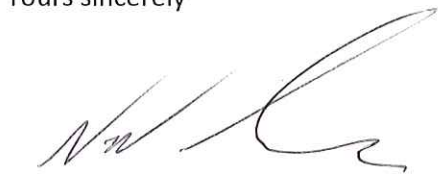
I acknowledge the concerns with our initial response to your request. We have split the response back into the three individual requests you made and provided the text of the relevant submissions to the Climate Change Response (Zero Carbon) Amendment Bill. Apologies for any inconvenience our initial combination of responses may have caused.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Office of the Ombudsman of my decision to withhold information relating to this request, in accordance with section 28(3) of the Act. The relevant details can be found on their website at: www.ombudsman.parliament.nz.

Please note that due to the public interest in our work the Ministry for the Environment publishes responses to requests for official information on our [OIA responses page](#) shortly after the response has been sent.

If you have any queries about this, please feel free to contact our Executive Relations team.

Yours sincerely



R.L.

Roger Lincoln
Director, Climate Change

List of documents

No.	Date	Content	Decision	OIA Section/s applied
1	10 January 2007	Response to Ministerial	Release in part	S9(2)(a)
2	10 April 2008	Emails: CC hotspots vs. observations	Release in part	S9(2)(a)
3	1 July 2010	Emails: Mediaportal broadcast summary	Release in part	S9(2)(a)
4	26 February 2013	Email	Release in part	S9(2)(a)
5	2 April 2013	Status Report: Minister for Climate Change Issues	Release in part	S9(2)(a)
6	3 April 2013	Emails: CC Status Report item on Monckton	Release in part	S9(2)(a)
7	19 April 2013	Email: climate skeptic tour	Release in full	
8	20 May 2013	Email: Briefing notes on Developments in Climate Change Science	Release in full	
9	17 May 2018	M Davison – submission on Zero Carbon Bill	Release in full	
10	25 September 2018	Russell Christiansen – submission on Zero Carbon Bill	Release in full	
11	June – August 2019	Andrew Iupati - submission to Environment Committee on Zero Carbon Bill	Release in full	
12	June – August 2019	Barbara McKenzie - submission to Environment Committee on Zero Carbon Bill		
13	June – August 2019	Douglas Edmeades - submission to Environment Committee on Zero Carbon Bill	Release in full	
14	June – August 2019	Edward Tye - submission to Environment Committee on Zero Carbon Bill	Release in full	
15	June – August 2019	Jock Allison - submission to Environment Committee on Zero Carbon Bill	Release in full	
16	15 August 2019	M Davison - submission to Environment Committee on Zero Carbon Bill	Release in full	

