

# Hon James Shaw

Minister of Climate Change

Associate Minister for the Environment (Biodiversity)



OIA478

16 March 2022

Chuck Schooner

By email: [fyi-request-18137-1a97927f@requests.fyi.org.nz](mailto:fyi-request-18137-1a97927f@requests.fyi.org.nz)

Dear Chuck,

Thank you for your email of 15 February 2022, further to your email of 10 January 2022 (OIA475 refers), requesting the following information under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

*“Impact of policy on the New Zealand primary sector and costs of production, impact on gdp”, in relation to recommendations proposed by the Climate Change Commission (the CCC) in its *Ināia-tonu-nei* report, and the impact these could have on national security.*

On 4 March 2022, you were advised of the need to extend the timeframe for responding to your request until 8 April 2022, under section 15A(1)(b) of the Act.

As with OIA475, I am interpreting the scope as seeking all advice prepared by the Ministry for the Environment (the Ministry) to the Minister of Climate Change about any potential impacts from the Climate Change Commission’s recommendations (if implemented) on New Zealand’s national security.

Again, I am using the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet’s (DPMC) definition of national security for the purposes of this response. That is, the protection against threats, or potential threats, that may cause serious harm to the safety or quality of life of the New Zealand population.

You can read DPMC’s full definition of national security on their website, at: <https://dpmc.govt.nz/our-programmes/national-security-and-intelligence/intelligence-and-security-act-2017/defining-national-security>.

As outlined in my previous response, the Government can choose whether or not to accept the CCC’s independently provided recommendations as it develops New Zealand’s emissions reduction plan.

The emissions reduction plan will set policies and strategies for meeting the first emissions Budget (2022-2025) and will set the direction for climate action for the next 15 years. It is expected to be published in May 2022.

My office is refusing your follow up request under section 18(e) of the Act, because the information requested does not exist. However, as outlined to you in my response to OIA475,

I encourage you to check the Ministry for the Environment's website for information it will proactively release once the emissions reduction plan is published in May 2022.

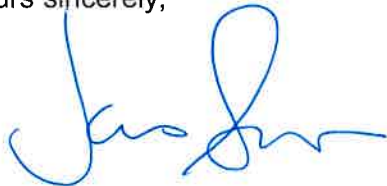
It may interest you to know the CCC undertook an extensive economic modelling exercise to look at the impact of different transition pathways on a number of different factors, such as GDP. In particular, you may be interested to read Chapter 8 of the CCC's report titled: *Demonstrating emissions budgets can be fair, inclusive and equitable*. You can read the report in full at: <https://climatecommission.govt.nz/our-work/advice-to-government-topic/inaia-tonu-nei-a-low-emissions-future-for-aotearoa/>.

This link also provides further information on specific areas of the CCC's analysis in its supporting evidence documents.

You may also wish to engage with the Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI) for information relating to impacts on the New Zealand primary sector. Ways to contact MPI can be found on their website, at: <https://mpi.govt.nz/contact-us/>.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Office of the Ombudsman of my response 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](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz).

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'James Shaw', with a large loop at the top and a horizontal line at the bottom.

Hon. James Shaw  
**Minister of Climate Change**