



OIAD-589

Simon Johnson
fyi-request-22210-b0f654a1@requests.fyi.org.nz

Tēnā koe Simon

Thank you for your email of 22 March 2023 to the Ministry for the Environment (the Ministry) requesting the following under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

Today you have released a pdf document that consists of the Cabinet paper "A review of the New Zealand Emissions Trading Scheme", a terms of reference and a Cabinet minute of decision. The url address for the release is: <https://aus01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fenvironment.govt.nz%2Fnews%2Fpreview-underway-of-role-of-nz-ets-in-climate-response%2F&data=05%7C01%7COIA%40mfe.govt.nz%7C7d09e42ecfb642a8c05908db2a950d05%7C761dd003d4ff40498a728549b20fcb1%7C0%7C0%7C638150591887546207%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWljoIMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzliLCJBTiI6IjEhaWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=zSefwiiFvL08J9EeliBLys1%2BUqlu2OP82Ne2EBLjTMI%3D&reserved=0> The documents have a number of redactions under section (9)(2)(f)(4) of the OIA. I would like to receive a complete unredacted copy of the three reports. Specifically these paragraphs and points and recommendations have been redacted. 17 80 81 82 101 102 103 104 107 108 109 110 111 125 part recommendation 10 recommendation 12 recommendation 15 recommendation 16 fourth paragraph of terms of reference p 23 last paragraph of terms of reference p 24 first and third point terms of reference p 25 minute of decision second to last point p 27 minute of decision first, fifth and sixth points p 28 I am therefore requesting the redacted paragraphs and points in the form of an unredacted set of documents posted to the FYI website. I confirm that I am a New Zealand citizen and that I am the same Simon Johnson resident in Wellington who has at times exchanged OIA emails with the Ministry's ministerial staff.

I am refusing your request under section 9(2)(f)(iv) of the Act in order to maintain the constitutional conventions for the time being which protect the confidentiality of advice tendered by Ministers of the Crown and officials. The information that has been withheld in the documents you have requested is still under active consideration, and the Ministry is unable to provide you with an unredacted copy at this time. The Ministry will publicly release the documents you have requested in full once public consultation on the review of the New Zealand Emissions Trading Scheme begins. This consultation is currently expected to occur in mid-2023.

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.

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 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 Ministerial Services team: ministerials@mfe.govt.nz.

Ngā mihi

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'James Coombes', written in a cursive style.

James Coombes

Manager – Emissions Pricing Policy

Ministry for the Environment | Manatū Mō Te Taiao