

20 AUG 2015

Ministry for Primary Industries
Manatū Ahu Matua



OIA15-048

Simon Johnson
fyi-request-2970-fe81bcc6@requests.fyi.nz

Dear Simon Johnson

WITHHOLDING OFFICIAL INFORMATION

I refer to your official information request of 22 July 2015 where you have requested the following:

"I have read with interest the cabinet paper "New Zealand's intended contribution to the new global climate change agreement" dated June 2015 that is available for download from the Ministry for the Environment's website.

The paper mentions the comments of the Ministry for Primary Industries in several places (page 10: paragraph 77, page 22: appendix 6).

Will you please provide me with a copy of the report or document that set out the MPI comments and was provided to the writers of the cabinet paper."

The information attached as Appendix 1 is released under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA). Some of this information is withheld pursuant to following sections of the OIA.

- s9(2)(a) - to protect the privacy of natural persons
- s9(2)(j) – the withholding is necessary to enable a Minister of the Crown or any department or organisation holding the information to carry on, without prejudice or disadvantage, negotiations (including commercial and industrial).

The Ministry is satisfied that in the circumstances of this case, the withholding of this information is not outweighed by other considerations which render it desirable in the public interest to make the information available.

MPI is currently considering other requests made under the OIA for copies of all MPI advice on New Zealand's Nationally Determined Contribution (INDC). Once final decisions have been made in regard to this information MPI is happy to provide this information to you.

If you are interested in this information please contact the Official Information Act Team, Ministry for Primary Industries at Official.InformationAct@mpi.govt.nz

You have the right under section 28(3) of the Official Information Act to request that an Ombudsman investigate and review this decision to withhold information. A request must be made in writing to:

The Ombudsman
Office of the Ombudsman
PO Box 10 152
WELLINGTON

Yours sincerely



Chris Carson
Director International Policy

From: Chris Carson

Sent: Monday, 15 June 2015 2:01 p.m.

To: s9(2)(a)

Cc: s9(2)(a)

Subject: RE: INDC paper update

Hi everyone,

Further to s9(2)(a) email below, the following is the draft departmental comment from MPI. We will obviously have to finalise it once Minister Groser has had another go at the paper. That said, we are happy for MfE to include it in the draft going to Minister Groser today.

Cheers
s9(2)(a)

Departmental comment – MPI: MPI's view is that tabling an INDC with provisionality expressed around international carbon markets, land sector rules s9(2)(j) s9(2)(j) is an appropriate way forward s9(2)(j). MPI notes, however, that it is unlikely that agricultural technologies will be sufficiently advanced to reduce the cost of the target on the New Zealand economy by the time of ratification of the NDC or even during the commitment period.

s9(2)(j)

In this scenario MPI would propose an economy wide target including agriculture, with agriculture covered by an accounting method s9(2)(j)

s9(2)(j)