



Ref: OIA 2024-003

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

8 February 2024

Kia ora [REDACTED]

I refer to your email of 28 January 2024, transferred to the Climate Change Commission on 29 January 2024, requesting the following information:

*“Terms of reference for the “Low emissions future for Aotearoa” - 31 May 2021. Dr Rod Carr Chair of the Climate Change Commission.
There may also be a Terms of reference that predates this report and if so I would be grateful for a copy of that too.”*

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

Our independent advice *Ināia tonu nei: a low emissions future for Aotearoa*, dated 31 May 2021, is part of the Commission’s core work programme as set out in the [Climate Change Response \(Zero Carbon\) Amendment Act 2019 \(CCRA\)](#).

There are three parts to *Ināia tonu nei*. The mandate for Parts One and Two is set out in full in the legislation of the CCRA. Part Three was included in our advice following a request made by Minister of Climate Change James Shaw in April 2020.

I am unable to provide you with terms of reference for Parts One and Two of *Ināia tonu nei* as they do not exist. This decision is made under section 18(e) of the Act. The mandate for these parts of our advice is provided under sections 5ZA and 5ZH of the CCRA.

[Section 5ZA](#) outlines the Commission’s directive to provide advice on emissions budgets and how they can be met. Within this section there is further instruction to regard [section 5ZC](#), which details more specific matters we need to consider as part of our emissions budgets advice.

[Section 5ZH](#) describes that the Commission must also advise on emissions reduction plans.

Furthermore, [section 5M](#) defines matters the Commission must consider more generally across all our pieces of advice.

Part Three of *Ināia tonu nei* is a section 5K request. Under [section 5K of the CCRA](#), the Minister of Climate Change may, at any time, request that the Commission prepare reports to the Government on matters related to reducing emissions of greenhouse gases and adapting to the effects of climate change. All section 5K requests have their own specific terms of reference.

The terms of reference for Part Three of our advice, as well as the full text of the request, can be found on our website, at: <https://www.climatecommission.govt.nz/our-work/advice-to-government-topic/nationally-determined-contributions/reviewing-new-zealands-nationally-determined-contribution-and-biogenic-methane/>.

The decision to provide you with publicly available information is made under section 18(d) 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.

Ngā mihi



Dr Grant Blackwell
Chief Science Advisor