



Ref: OIA 2023-024

Kia ora [REDACTED]

Thank you for your request of 15 December 2023 seeking the following information:

*"a copy of all correspondence and meeting/discussion notes concerning discussions between the commission and the office of the Climate Change Minister concerning the timing of releasing the commission's second ERP advice... The period covered by this request is October, November and December (to date) 2023".*

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

The Commission's advice on the direction of policy for the Government's second emission reduction plan (the advice) was provided to the Minister of Climate Change (the Minister) on 28 November 2023. This advice was prepared in line with the Commission's role as laid out in the Climate Change Response Act (CCRA).

The CCRA also outlines the requirements of tabling and publicly releasing the advice. Following its receipt, the Minister has 10 working days to present the advice to the House. At that point, the advice is made publicly available on the Parliament website. How the advice is presented to the public is for the Minister and their Office to decide.

The CCRA requires the Commission to make the advice publicly available as soon as practicable after it is presented to the House. The Minister presented the advice to the House on 12 December 2023, and the Commission published the advice on our website later the same day.

The Minister's Private Secretary and the Commission's Government Services Manager spoke several times between October to mid-December about when the advice might be presented to the House and subsequently released. These conversations took place within the context of the caretaker government in order to determine when a new Minister might be in place and when Parliament might open.

No meeting notes were taken during these conversations which is why I am unable to provide you with this information. This decision is made under section 18(e) of the Act.

I am able to provide you with correspondence between the Commission and the Minister's Office in the form of two email chains. Please note that personal contact information has been withheld from these emails under section 9(2)(a) of the Act in order to protect the privacy of natural persons.

In making this decision, I consider the public interest in this matter is not outweighed by the need to withhold the aforementioned information at this time.



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](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz)

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

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'G Blackwell', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Dr Grant Blackwell  
Chief Science Advisor