

Ref: OIA 2024-018

24 May 2024

Kia ora

Thank you for your correspondence. You wrote to us on 20 March 2024 in relation to the following:

“The Global Science Intelligence Group of 1609 signatures includes about 16 persons based here in NZ. Please advise who of the 16 have provided advice and consultation in your past work. If none, when will you be asking them for their judgement on the recommendations regarding GHG emissions this year and beyond.”

Our response, dated 22 April 2024, explained that feedback the Commission receives throughout our consultation process is published on our website, as long as the submitter gives us publishing permission, and provided you with links to these submissions.

Several signatories to the Global Climate Intelligence Group (CLINTEL) have provided feedback to the Commission in previous consultation processes. These submissions can be accessed through the links provided in our 22 April correspondence. As several signatories made submissions, we did not answer the second part of your request which asks, *“If none, when will you be asking them for their judgement on the recommendations regarding GHG emissions this year and beyond”*. We acknowledge that our response could have made this decision clearer.

On 23 April 2024 you asked, *“Why have you not answered my question as to who of the 16 persons on the Global Science Intelligence Group based in NZ, have you spoken with?”* After this request was acknowledged, on 26 April you updated your request to cover the following questions:

1. *“Why have you not answered my question as to who of the 16 persons on the Global Science Intelligence Group based in NZ, have you spoken with?”*
There are in fact 22 experts based in New Zealand and all 22 need to be included in the process of determining the Targets please.
Please advise who of the 22 has the CCC spoken to, and if none, when will the CCC be making contact. with these experts.
2. *Dr Richard Reaney is one of the 22 names on the Global Science Intelligence Group list. Dr Reaney made a presentation at the CCC meeting in Taupo on Wednesday 24 April 2024.*
Will the CCC be following up that presentation with Dr Reaney?
3. *At the Taupo meeting your Mr Sam Hill advised that staffing was now some 80 persons. Please confirm the current number of staff employed by the CCC?*
4. *It was noted that in the 2022 Annual Report there were 28 on the staff, plus the Board. The cost that year for the staff and Board was some \$10,300,000. Please confirm.*

In the Annual Report for 2023, 43 staff and the Board are noted. Please confirm the total cost of the staff and Board as at 30 June 2023. Some \$15,318,000 plus expenses I believe

5. *What is the current budget for the staff and Board, for the year ending 30 June 2024. Based on the cost in 2022 and 2023 it will be in the order of \$28 to \$29 million for the current year. Please confirm.*
6. *Another related question is why was it necessary to increase the staff from 43 to 80 during the past nine months, at the same time there was an election for a new Government? What was the big change at the CCC that required the extra staffing of some 37 persons (a 86% increase)?*

Please find our response to your questions below.

Part one: consultation (Questions 1 & 2)

I am able to advise that the Commission has not asked the signatories of the CLINTEL “for their judgement on the recommendations regarding GHG emissions this year and beyond” or reached out to them in relation to the process of determining emissions reduction targets and, as at 26 April 2024, we do not have plans to reach out to them.

Part two: staffing (Questions 3-6)

The Commission’s work programme is set out in the [Climate Change Response Act 2002](#) and our [forward work programme](#) is available on our website. Since its establishment in December 2019, the Commission’s annual work programme has grown in line with legislative requirements, which has necessitated an increase in staff.

The current number of permanent and fixed term staff employed at the Commission as at 26 April was 87.78 full time equivalent, with a headcount of 91. It is important to note that the staff numbers and associated costs provided in your request are not accurate.

Information on the Commission’s staff numbers, personnel and Board costs is available in our Annual Reports. In the [2021/22 Annual Report](#), staff numbers are reported on page 37. Personnel costs are reported on page 69, and Board costs on page 55. In the [2022/23 Annual Report](#), staff numbers are reported on page 52. Personnel costs are reported on page 67, and Board costs on page 68.

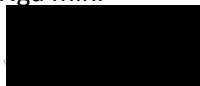
Our forecast spend on personnel in 2023/24 was reported in our [2023/24 Statement of Performance Expectations](#) on page 29. I am able to advise that the forecasted budget for the Board in 2023/24 was \$656,400.

Some of the information you seek in these parts of your request are available at the links provided. I rely on [section 18\(d\)](#) of the Act to support my decision to not supply this information in this response, as the information is publicly available.

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



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