



COVERSHEET

Minister	Hon Stuart Nash	Portfolio	Economic and Regional Development
Title of briefing	Emissions Reduction Plan: Circular Economy and Bioeconomy	Date to be published	7 September 2022

List of documents that have been proactively released

Date	Title	Author
March 2022	Emissions Reduction Plan: Circular Economy and Bioeconomy	Office of the Minister of Energy and Resources; Office of the Minister for Economic and Regional Development
21 March 2022	Emissions Reduction Plan: Circular Economy and Bioeconomy: CBC-22-MIN-0018 Minute	Cabinet Office

Information redacted

YES / NO [select one]

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Reasons for withholding information includes:

- Maintaining constitutional conventions
- Free and frank opinions



Cabinet Business Committee

Minute of Decision

This document contains information for the New Zealand Cabinet. It must be treated in confidence and handled in accordance with any security classification, or other endorsement. The information can only be released, including under the Official Information Act 1982, by persons with the appropriate authority.

Emissions Reduction Plan: Circular Economy and Bioeconomy

Portfolios **Energy and Resources / Economic and Regional Development**

On 21 March 2022, the Cabinet Business Committee:

- 1 **noted** that the Minister of Energy and Resources and the Minister for Economic and Regional Development are seeking agreement to actions to be included in the Circular Economy and Bioeconomy Emissions Reduction Plan chapter;
- 2 **noted** that many aspects of the circular economy and bioeconomy are related and complementary, as more circular use of our renewable resources will help New Zealand make the shift to a low-emissions economy, but that circular economy and bioeconomy also have applications that are distinct from each other;
- 3 **agreed** to the following actions to be included in the Circular Economy and Bioeconomy chapter of the Emissions Reduction Plan:
 - 3.1 invest in data collection and research to measure baselines and indicators of progress towards circularity and the impact on emissions;
 - 3.2 integrate and build circular practices across government, communities, and businesses;
 - 3.3 support for businesses moving to circular operating models;
 - 3.4 accelerate the sustainable and secure supply and uptake of bioenergy in New Zealand, that avoids adverse effects on indigenous vegetation and habitats;
 - 3.5 deliver a Circular Economy and Bioeconomy Strategy developed with engagement with iwi/Māori and key stakeholder;
 - 3.6 support research and development, and accelerate investment in the bioeconomy to successfully commercialise bioeconomy technology and products, including marine and terrestrial-derived products;
- 4 **agreed** that the lead Ministers for the actions in paragraph 3 above be the Minister for Economic and Regional Development (for actions identified in paragraphs 3.1, 3.2 and 3.3), the Minister of Energy and Resources, and Minister of Forestry (for the action identified in paragraph 3.4 above);

- 5 **noted** that responsible Ministers and agencies for paragraphs 3.5 and 3.6 above will be decided when further decisions on these actions are made;
- 6 **agreed** that the Circular Economy and Bioeconomy Strategy will be developed with meaningful engagement with iwi/Māori;
- 7 **agreed** that the Circular Economy and Bioeconomy Strategy will include exploring the following five focus areas:
- 7.1 moving to a more circular public sector;
 - 7.2 innovation, skills, and investment;
 - 7.3 aligning regulatory systems and the business environment;
 - 7.4 enabling Māori to benefit from a circular economy and thriving bioeconomy;
 - 7.5 a bioeconomy framework to guide the use of New Zealand's bioresources to maximise wellbeing;
- 8 **agreed** that the Circular Economy and Bioeconomy Strategy will consider distributional impacts, impacts on minority groups, and how to ensure an equitable transition through meaningful engagement.

Jenny Vickers
Committee Secretary

Present:

Rt Hon Jacinda Ardern (Chair)
Hon Grant Robertson
Hon Kelvin Davis
Hon Dr Megan Woods
Hon Chris Hipkins
Hon Carmel Sepuloni
Hon Andrew Little
Hon Nanaia Mahuta
Hon Poto Williams
Hon Damien O'Connor
Hon Stuart Nash

Officials present from:

Office of the Prime Minister
Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet