

29 September 2025

OIA Team
Ministerial Services
Ministry for the Environment
PO Box 10362
Wellington, 6143

To whom it may concern,

Our OIA 2025/19 – Request for redacted climate-related Memo/Cabinet paper

The McGuinness Institute recently undertook research into climate related Cabinet papers/minutes and Committee papers/minutes. From this research we published *Working Paper 2025/03 – List of Climate-related Cabinet Papers Dated Between 2001 and 2024*. The purpose of this paper was to create a list of all climate-related Cabinet papers and accompanying Cabinet minutes that have been produced and proactively released between 2001 and 2024. The Institute's intention is to ensure that there is a comprehensive list of Cabinet papers in the public arena that set out New Zealand's public policy response to climate change. Our list is located on our webpage [here](#). As part of this research, we continue to update this list regularly. To this end:

1. Can you provide a list of all papers from 1 January 2025, with links. We will use this information to update our table.

We have come across a recent article published by RNZ about a Cabinet paper that was redacted retrospectively after being unintentionally released. The article can be found [here](#). To this end:

2. Could you provide a copy of the redacted memo/Cabinet paper that is mentioned in the RNZ article? Or, if proactively released, could you provide a link?

This article also discussed the purchase of off-shore carbon credits to meet New Zealand's NDCs. Given this, we would appreciate answers to the following three questions:

3. Has the government undertaken any purchases of off-shore carbon credits to date?
4. Has the government budgeted to purchase off-shore carbon credits in the next 12 months?
5. Has Minister Watts/Cabinet made any decisions on whether to buy help offshore carbon credits or has this government ruled it out (see Minister Watts response in the RNZ article).

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Greta Balfour or myself.

Kind regards,



Wendy McGuinness
Chief Executive