

OC220611

11 August 2022

s 9(2)(a)

Tēnā koe s 9(2)(a)

I refer to parts two and three of your request dated 7 July 2022, pursuant to the Official Information Act 1982, seeking:

“2. all reports, briefings, memos, aide memoirs and advice, if any, that has been given to any Ministers in relation to subsidies for biofuels in the past two years.

3. Of the above documents, please indicate which ones were requested by Ministers and which Minister requested it.”

Parts two and three of your request were transferred from Waka Kotahi New Zealand Transport Agency to Te Manatū Waka Ministry of Transport (the Ministry) on 18 July 2022.

The table below details the documents that fall within the scope of your request and the Ministry’s response. Please note that there are no documents held by the Ministry that qualify as advice to Ministers explicitly in relation to “subsidies for biofuels”. However, the table below includes documents we consider will be of most use to you given the scope of your request.

#	Date	Document	Decision on release	Requester
1	April 2021	Cabinet paper OC210099 Sustainable Transport Biofuels Mandate: preferred design for public consultation	Refused in full under Section 18(d) of the Act as this document is publicly available and can be accessed on the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment’s website here: https://www.mbie.govt.nz/dmsdocument/15614-a-sustainable-transport-biofuels-mandate-preferred-design-for-public-consultation-proactiverelease-pdf	N/A
2	October 2021	Cabinet paper OC210844 Sustainable Biofuels Mandate: final policy design	Refused in full under Section 18(d) of the Act as this document is publicly available and can be accessed on the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment’s website here:	N/A

			https://www.mbie.govt.nz/dmsdocument/18366-sustainable-biofuels-mandate-final-policy-design-proactiverelease-pdf	
3	18 May 2022	Speaking points OC220400 18 May DEV Committee Speaking points – Sustainable Biofuels Obligation – draft discussion document on regulations	Refused in full under Section 18(d). This information will soon be made publicly available as part of another OIA request to the Ministry.	Minister of Transport
4	24 May 2022	Meeting briefing OC220420 Meeting with Vertus Energy – 26 May 2022	Refused in full under Section 18(d). This information will soon be made publicly available as part of another OIA request to the Ministry.	Minister of Transport

As set about in the table above, the first two documents (document 1 and 2) were prepared for Cabinet and therefore were not requested by any one Minister in particular. Document 3 was prepared for the Minister of Transport to support his attendance at the 18 May 2022 Cabinet Economic Development Committee. Document 4 was requested by the Minister of Transport to support his meeting with Vertus Energy.

For the documents listed above, I am refusing your request under the following section of the Act:

18(d) the information requested is or will soon be publicly available.

Where possible, website links have been provided to support your accessing the relevant documents that are already publicly available (documents 1 and 2). I would encourage you to visit both the Ministry's and the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment's dedicated biofuels webpages to view other biofuels related documents that have already been made publicly available.

You can access the Ministry's general biofuels webpage here:

<https://www.transport.govt.nz/area-of-interest/environment-and-climate-change/biofuels/>.

You can access the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment's general biofuels webpage here: <https://www.mbie.govt.nz/building-and-energy/energy-and-natural-resources/energy-generation-and-markets/liquid-fuel-market/biofuels/>.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review of this response by the Ombudsman, in accordance with section 28(3) of the Act. The relevant details can be found on the Ombudsman's website www.ombudsman.parliament.nz

The Ministry publishes our Official Information Act responses and the information contained in our reply to you may be published on the Ministry website. Before publishing we will remove any personal or identifiable information.

Nāku noa, nā

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jemima', written in a cursive style.

Jemima de Lacey

**Kaiarataki Uruhi Kaupapahere, Te Rōpū Taiao me tōna Oranga
Policy Delivery Lead, Environment, Emissions and Adaptation**