

Hon James Shaw

Minister of Climate Change

Associate Minister for the Environment (Biodiversity)



OIA401

Matthew Hooton

By email: fyi-request-15869-8c4f5bae@requests.fyi.org.nz

19 July 2021

Dear Matthew,

Thank you for your email of 22 June 2021 requesting the following under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

Under the OIA, I request all written advice you have received as Minister of Climate Change since 1 January 2021 on:

- 1) human rights, labour standards and environmental issues associated with the mining of cobalt, lithium, nickel and other rare earth metals required for the batteries of electric vehicles*
- 2) how batteries required for electric vehicles will be recycled or disposed of in New Zealand over the next 30 years, and in what volumes, and how any disposal sites will be kept safe.*

I have not received any written advice on these issues from my officials at the Ministry for the Environment since 1 January 2021. Therefore, I am refusing your request under section 18(e) of the Act as the requested document does not exist.

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

Please contact my office if you have any queries about this response.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'James Shaw'.

Hon. James Shaw
Minister of Climate Change