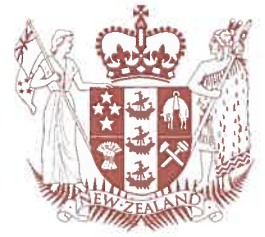


Hon Dr Megan Woods



MP for Wigram

Minister of Energy and Resources

Minister Responsible for the Earthquake Commission

Minister for Greater Christchurch Regeneration

Minister of Research, Science and Innovation

OIA18-088

Dr Terrence Loomis

fyi-request-7589-317193c4@requests.fyi.org.nz

24 MAY 2018

Dear Mr Loomis

Thank you for your email of 10 April 2018 to the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet requesting the following under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

On 22 March 2018, Stuff News published an opinion piece by the Prime Minister titled 'We're already planning for fossil fuels transition.' In that piece Ms Ardern stated "We have a plan for weaning New Zealand off fossil fuels and it has a timeline that stretches out nearly 30 years into the future."

Under the Official Information Act, I would like to request a copy of the plan to which the Prime Minister was referring. If such a plan does not exist or is not ready for public release, I would like to request copies of email correspondence, briefings and Cabinet papers regarding the development of a plan to wean New Zealand off fossil fuels over the next thirty years.

Upon taking office, the Government put in place a number of ambitious targets; including achieving a net zero emissions economy by 2050, transitioning to 100 per cent renewable electricity generation by 2035, and establishing an Independent Climate Change Commission. These are the foundations of the plan to transition away from fossil fuels. These ambitious targets have enabled officials across a wide range of Government entities to begin work developing policies and strategies for the transition.

As part of this work programme, the Prime Minister and I have asked the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment to establish a team to consider what a just transition looks like for New Zealand, which would include the fossil fuel industry. At this stage, no documentation specifically relating to oil and gas has been prepared for Ministers. Your request is therefore refused under section 18(e) of the Act, as the information requested does not exist.

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

Yours sincerely

Hon Dr Megan Woods
Minister of Energy and Resources