

Terms of Reference

The Minister for Climate Change requests under section 5K of the Climate Change Response Act 2002 (CCRA) that the Climate Change Commission (Commission) provide:

- 1) advice on the potential reductions in biogenic methane emissions which might eventually be required by New Zealand as part of a global effort under the Paris Agreement to limit the global average temperature increase to 1.5° Celsius above pre-industrial levels.

In providing this advice the Commission must:

- a. leave aside considerations on the current target range for biogenic methane specified in section 5(Q)(1)(b) of the CCRA;
- b. consider the available scientific evidence on the global biogenic methane emissions reductions likely to be required to limit global average temperature increase to 1.5° Celsius above pre-industrial levels;
- c. consider New Zealand's potential contribution to global efforts to limit biogenic methane emissions, reflecting its national circumstances; and
- d. consider a range of potential scenarios for economic, social and demographic changes which might occur in New Zealand and globally until 2100.

This advice is intended to provide greater certainty for planning purposes about the eventual reductions in biogenic methane emissions which might be required of New Zealand as part of global efforts to limit average temperature increased to 1.5° Celsius above pre-industrial levels. This advice does not require the Commission to review the biogenic methane target under sections 5S and 5T of the CCRA.

- 2) a report on New Zealand's first Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC), including:
 - a. advice on whether the NDC is compatible with contributing to the global effort under the Paris Agreement to limit the global average temperature increase to 1.5° Celsius above pre-industrial levels; and
 - b. recommendations on any changes to the NDC required to ensure it is compatible with global efforts under the Paris Agreement to limit the global average temperature increase to 1.5° Celsius above pre-industrial levels.

Mode of work

The Commission must fulfil the requirements of section 5N of the CCRA, and is expected to engage with the public, iwi/hapū/Māori, industry, technical experts, special interest groups, sector lead groups and other interested parties.

The Commission will be able to draw upon a range of people from government agencies to inform specific elements of the work being undertaken.

Expected timeline

The Commission's advice on these matters in the form of a final report or reports, is to be provided to the Minister for Climate Change alongside the Commission's recommendations on the first three emissions budgets and advice on the first emissions reduction plan.

Publication

Under section 5L(2) of the CCRA, the Minister for Climate Change is required to table the Commission's final report with the House of Representatives. The Commission must make the document publicly available as soon as practicable after it is presented to the House of Representatives, but no later than 20 working days after providing it to the Minister (even if the document has not been presented to the House by that date).