



COVERSHEET

Minister	Hon Dr Megan Woods	Portfolio	Energy and Resources
Title of Cabinet paper	Progressing a sustainable transport biofuels mandate	Date to be published	28 June 2021

List of documents that have been proactively released		
Date	Title	Author
16 December 2020	<i>Progressing a sustainable transport biofuels mandate</i>	<i>Office of the Minister of Energy and Resources Office of the Minister of Transport</i>
16 December 2020	<i>Cabinet Business Committee Minute of Decision: Progressing a Sustainable Transport Biofuels Mandate (CBC-20-MIN-0139)</i>	<i>Cabinet Office</i>

Information redacted

YES / NO

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Cabinet Business Committee

Minute of Decision

This document contains information for the New Zealand Cabinet. It must be treated in confidence and handled in accordance with any security classification, or other endorsement. The information can only be released, including under the Official Information Act 1982, by persons with the appropriate authority.

Progressing a Sustainable Transport Biofuels Mandate

Portfolios **Energy and Resources / Transport**

On 16 December 2020, the Cabinet Business Committee, having been authorised by Cabinet to have Power to Act [CAB-20-MIN-0536]:

- 1 **noted** that as transport is responsible for 47 per cent of New Zealand's domestic CO₂ emissions, it will be difficult to achieve the government's 2050 target, to reduce CO₂ emissions to net zero, unless transport is largely decarbonised;
- 2 **noted** that:
 - 2.1 biofuels are already available, especially in countries with mandates;
 - 2.2 biofuels have a role to play in the decarbonisation of transport, both as a transitional fuel for the existing light road vehicle fleet, and as a long-term solution where low emission vehicles and planes are prohibitively expensive, or are not expected to develop, for example in long-haul aviation;
- 3 **agreed in principle** to implement a biofuel mandate, subject to the report referred to in paragraph 6 below;
- 4 **agreed** that the 2008 Biofuel Sales Obligation be reviewed for its suitability as a measure to facilitate an increase in the supply and use of sustainable biofuels in transport;
- 5 **directed** the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment and the Ministry of Transport, in consultation with the Ministry for Primary Industries, the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Authority, the Ministry for the Environment, and Waka Kotahi, to:
 - 5.1 conduct the review referred to in paragraph 4 above;
 - 5.2 undertake further research into the costs and benefits of a biofuels mandate and the sustainability criteria for biofuels;
- 6 **invited** the Minister of Energy and Resources and the Minister of Transport to report back to the Cabinet Economic Development Committee on the outcome of the officials' review by 30 April 2021, and if relevant, to seek approval to release a public consultation document on the preferred biofuels mandate's design;

- 7 **noted** that the government may announce that it is investigating the possibility of introducing a biofuels mandate in the near term if it wishes to signal its interest in promoting the development of biofuels market in New Zealand.

Gerrard Carter
Committee Secretary

Present:

Rt Hon Jacinda Ardern (Chair)
Hon Grant Robertson
Hon Kelvin Davis
Hon Dr Megan Woods
Hon Chris Hipkins
Hon Andrew Little
Hon David Parker
Hon Nanaia Mahuta
Hon Poto Williams
Hon Damien O'Connor
Hon Stuart Nash
Hon Kris Faafoi
Hon Jan Tinetti
Hon Dr David Clark
Hon Dr Ayesha Verrall
Hon James Shaw
Hon Stuart Nash

Officials present from:

Office of the Prime Minister
Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet