



COVERSHEET

Minister	Hon Shane Jones	Portfolio	Resources and Regional Development
Title of Cabinet paper	Proposed Overseas Travel: Hon Shane Jones – October 2025	Date to be published	20 November 2025

List of documents that have been proactively released

Date	Title	Author
October 2025	Proposed Overseas Travel: Hon Shane Jones – October 2025	Office of the Minister for Resources and Regional Development
20 October 2025	Proposed Overseas Travel: Hon Shane Jones – October 2025 CAB-25-MIN-0372 Minute	Cabinet Office

Information redacted

YES / NO (please select)

Any information redacted in this document is redacted in accordance with MBIE's policy on Proactive Release and is labelled with the reason for redaction. This may include information that would be redacted if this information was requested under Official Information Act 1982. Where this is the case, the reasons for withholding information are listed below. Where information has been withheld, no public interest has been identified that would outweigh the reasons for withholding it.

In Confidence

Office of the Minister for Resources and Minister for Regional Development
Chair, Cabinet

Proposed Overseas Travel: Hon Shane Jones – October 2025

- 1 I seek Cabinet approval to travel to Reno, Nevada from Wednesday 22 October to Thursday 30 October 2025 in my capacity as Minister for Resources and Minister for Regional Development.
- 2 The Prime Minister has approved the travel in-principle, and leave from the House has been approved by the Party Whip.

Purpose of Travel

- 3 The purpose of this travel is to attend the Indigenous Geothermal Symposium, and Geothermal Rising Conference, in Reno, Nevada, where I will serve as a keynote speaker at the Indigenous Geothermal Symposium and present at the Geothermal Rising Conference.
- 4 This travel builds on the launch of the government's Geothermal Strategy at Geothermal week in Taupō and reflects my ongoing commitment to advancing regional development through strategic investment.
- 5 Additionally, as discussed with the Prime Minister I will conduct a series of meetings and engagements intended to promote New Zealand's innovations in supercritical geothermal, reinforcing its global leadership in next-gen energy technologies, promoting New Zealand as an investment destination.
- 6 Officials are working with my office to finalise the programme. These events will provide an important opportunity to:
 - 6.1 Offer a global platform to showcase Aotearoa's leadership in integrating Māori knowledge and rights into geothermal energy projects.
 - 6.2 Enable relationship-building with indigenous leaders and policymakers from North America and beyond, fostering collaboration on clean energy transitions.
 - 6.3 Highlight New Zealand's Supercritical Geothermal Vision. This provides a stage to present New Zealand's innovations in supercritical geothermal, reinforcing its global leadership in next-gen energy technologies.

- 6.4 Advance cultural diplomacy aligning with New Zealand’s values of Māori partnership supporting the government’s agenda on indigenous empowerment in climate and energy policy.
 - 6.5 Showcase innovation highlighting New Zealand’s cutting-edge research in supercritical geothermal, and critical minerals.
 - 6.6 Attract investment and partnerships, facilitating direct engagement with global investors and developers, opening doors for joint ventures and economic growth.
- 7 I also have meetings planned with other potential investors who have shown an interest in both supporting and setting up business in New Zealand. These engagements align with the Government’s broader strategy to attract foreign investment to New Zealand.

Ministerial Party

- 8 I will be accompanied by one staff member from my office whose travel will be covered as a charge to Vote: Internal Affairs [Members of the Executive – Travel].
- 9 I will be accompanied by two officials from MBIE, whose travel costs will be met by MBIE.

Travel Costs

10 Indicative costs for myself and one staff member are as follows:

International Business Class Airfares (2 people):	\$ 50,926
Accommodation (2 people):	\$ 10,904
Other expenses (e.g. fees)	\$ 2,100
Subtotal	\$ 63,930
Contingency (5%)	\$ 3,196
(NZD) Total	\$ 67,126

Acting Ministers

- 11 The following colleagues will act in my portfolios.
 - 11.1 Hon Mark Patterson – Regional Development
 - 11.2 Hon Chris Bishop – Resources
 - 11.3 Hon Tama Potaka – Oceans and Fisheries

Proactive Release

The Minister proposes to release the paper in part subject to redactions as appropriate under the Official Information Act 1982.

Recommendations

I recommend that Cabinet:

- 1 **Approve** my travel to Reno, Nevada, from 22 October to 30 October 2025.
- 2 **Approve** expenditure of \$67,126 for the travel expenses of the Ministerial party as a charge to Vote Internal Affairs: Members of the Executive – Travel.
- 3 **Agree** that I be accompanied by one member of staff.
- 4 **Note** that I will be accompanied by two officials from Kānoa, MBIE.
- 5 **Note** that the Prime Minister has approved the travel in principle.
- 6 **Note** that I have approval from the Party whip for my absence from the House.
- 7 **Agree** that the following act in my portfolios:
 1. Hon Mark Patterson – Regional Development
 2. Hon Chris Bishop - Resources
 3. Hon Tama Potaka – Oceans and Fisheries

Authorised for lodgement

Hon Shane Jones

Minister for Resources

Minister for Regional Development