Hon Megan Woods
Minister of Energy and Resources

20 February 2018

Dear Megan

Out of Scope
Block Offer

The simple fact is that all the coal, oil, and gas that has already been discovered cannot be burnt if globally we are to meet our Paris Agreement commitments to limit global warming to 1.5-2 degrees. We should not be looking for more.

The United Nations estimated last year that to meet climate targets, 80-90 percent of coal, 50 percent of gas, and 35 percent of oil cannot be burnt.

Realistically, currently known fossil fuel reserves may continue to be extracted and burnt for some time as the global transition to cleaner renewable energy sources takes place. But searching for more fossil fuels does not aid the transition, it delays it. Every exploration dollar could instead be spent on renewable energy. Every investment creates an asset from which its owners will expect a return.

I urge you to end the Block Offer process for allocating petroleum and minerals permits immediately. I understand that the most recent Block Offer was set in motion by the previous Government. I do not see any good reason why our new Government should begin another one.
I welcome an opportunity to discuss these points further with you.

Sincerely,

Honames Shaw
Hi

As the Prime Minister signalled last year; the annual block offer is an area we want to look at closely and Minister Woods has begun discussions with colleagues and officials about options for the annual process moving forward. We expect there will be more to say in the coming months.

Unfortunately until these discussions progress we are unable to provide much more information for your constituent, other than to say thanks for writing to us and that the particular concerns have been noted.

Feel free to give me a call if you’d like to discuss further.

Warm regards,

Ministerial Advisor – Office of Hon Dr Megan Woods
Minister of Energy and Resources | Minister for Greater Christchurch Regeneration | Minister of Research, Science and Innovation | Minister Responsible for the Earthquake Commission

Hi

I am writing on behalf of a constituent who has concerns regarding the continuity of the Block Offers offered for tender in the Hawke’s Bay region, specifically permit 53806 that covers an aquifer which is politically and environmentally sensitive.

Currently the Hawke’s Bay Regional Council (HBRC) is attempting a plan change to remove oil and gas in the area within a 12 nautical mile limit off the coast, but was only granted seven. This is restricted to off-shore permits.

What my constituent would like to know is whether this Labour government would consider permanently excluding sensitive areas such as permit 53806? And would they be supportive of an initiative to exclude all oil and gas exploration/mining in the Hawke’s Bay region?

It would be great to have some kind of response to give to the constituent here.

Kind regards
s 9(2)(a)  
Napier Electorate
Hon Stuart Nash | Member of Parliament for Napier
Minister for: Police | Revenue | Fisheries | Small Business
Tel: 9(2)(a)
From: Mike Munro
Sent: Monday, 5 March 2018 10:09 AM
To: Mike Munro
Subject: FW: Petroleum Allocation
Attachments: Briefing 2219 17-18 - Petroleum allocation scenarios_Sent MO 27.02.2018.pdf

Hi Mike,

As requested, please see attached.

Cheers,

From: Mike Munro
Sent: Thursday, 1 March 2018 3:11 PM
To: Mike Munro
Cc: Mike Munro
Subject: Petroleum Allocation

Hi,

As discussed, see attached.

Cheers,

Ministerial Advisor, Office of Hon Dr Megan Woods
Minister of Energy and Resources | Minister for Greater Christchurch Regeneration | Minister of Research, Science and Innovation | Minister Responsible for the Earthquake Commission
Hey [s 9(2)(a)]

Just a note so you have it in writing, the alternative wording we are exploring as discussed with Megan is:

2018 Block Offer limited to Taranaki onshore only with a moratorium on offshore pending work of the Interim Climate Change Committee and the Independent Climate Change Commission.

I’m passing this on to officials this morning.

Cheers,
[s 9(2)(a)]

Kia Ora [s 9(2)(a)]

Happy to help with this in your absence if needed. Just let me know.

[s 9(2)(a)] Senior Ministerial Advisor
Office of the Prime Minister
[s 9(2)(a)]


Hi [s 9(2)(a)]

The PM will need some background info on the current state of the O&G industry ahead of her chat with Winston Peters on Thursday.

A download on the situation in Taranaki, as the only producing region, would be useful – producing fields, number of jobs, direct and indirect, gdp impacts etc.
Obviously production would continue for some years even if exploration was to end tomorrow, so a sense of the length of consents, size of reserves etc, would help provide a better understanding of what will be a measured transition to clean energy.

Would be good if you could pull something together by COB Wednesday.

Cheers
Mike

Mike Munro | Chief of Staff
Office of the Prime Minister
s 9(2)(a)

Authorised by Jacinda Ardern MP, Parliament Buildings, Wellington
Thank you.

We have a briefing from the Ministers Office coming.

Sent with BlackBerry Work
(www.blackberry.com)

G'day Mike,

I've contacted DPM's office regarding the block offer oil and gas sector meeting.

Thanks!

Senior Private Secretary
Office of the Prime Minister
Kia ora Mike,

Please find the briefings attached. Apologies for the delay in getting these to you.

Senior Ministerial Advisor
Office of the Prime Minister

From:  
Sent: Thursday 15 March 2018 1:18 PM  
To:  
Subject: RE: Advice on oil and gas industry in NZ

Kia Ora,

I realised I didn’t reply at the time. Thank you very much for sending this through on Tuesday.

Senior Ministerial Advisor  
Office of the Prime Minister


From:  
Sent: Wednesday, 14 March 2018 1:00 PM  
To:  
Cc:  
Subject: Advice on oil and gas industry in NZ

Hi

See attached an aide memoire from MBIE on the oil and gas industry in New Zealand, in response to your request below.

The first document is a scanned and signed version, the last two are print-PDFs of the main document and the Annex.

Please let me know if you have any comments or questions.

Cheers,

From:  
Sent: Tuesday, 13 March 2018 5:52 PM  
To:  
Cc:  
Subject: RE: O&G

Kia Ora

Out of Scope
Thanks for that. We'll get something back to you tomorrow.

Kia Ora

Thank you. Primarily the PM will need a broad overview of the sector. She won't need a lot of contextual description as she is largely across the policy settings but will need key numbers and facts. Covering the two specific areas as Mike discussed below should be a focus but a summary of what has happened in recent exploration/block offer processes there and in other areas as you suggest would also be useful.

Office of the Prime Minister

Hi

No problem - MBIE have started working on this.

If you do have any further details on info required and the context for the meeting that would be helpful.

Also, do you want any information on exploration permits and prospects in the Canterbury and Great South Basins, off the South Island? There are not producing regions, but are part of the landscape for the industry in NZ currently — or should we assume no further exploration?

Cheers,
Hey 9(2)(a)

Could you please ensure this is priority no. 1 for officials tomorrow?

I think some of the information is already in the most recent briefing our office received but it'd be good to make sure we've provided as much as possible on each point.

9(2)(a) is key contact in PMO if any clarification or follow up is needed.

Cheers
9(2)(a)

Sent with BlackBerry Work
(www.blackberry.com)

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Kia Ora 9(2)(a)

Happy to help with this in the assistance if needed, just let me know.

9(2)(a) Senior Ministerial Advisor
Office of the Prime Minister
9(2)(a)


---

From: Mike Murphy
Sent: Monday, 12 March 2018 6:57 PM
To: 9(2)(a) @parliament.govt.nz;
Cc: 9(2)(a) @parliament.govt.nz;
Subject: O&G

Hi 9(2)(a)

The PM will need some background info on the current state of the O&G industry ahead of her chat with Winston Peters on Thursday.

A download on the situation in Taranaki, as the only producing region, would be useful – producing fields, number of jobs, direct and indirect, gdp impacts etc

Obviously production would continue for some years even if exploration was to end tomorrow, so a sense of the length of consents, size of reserves etc, would help provide a better understanding of what will be a measured transition to clean energy.
Would be good if you could pull something together by COB Wednesday.

Cheers
Mike

Mike Munro | Chief of Staff
Office of the Prime Minister
§ 9(2)(a)

Authorised by Jacinda Ardern MP, Parliament Buildings, Wellington
From:  
Sent:  
To:  
Subject:  

FW: 2450 17-18: Block Offer 2018 - Proposed blocks for consultation - Updated 16.03.2018 (IN-CONFIDENCE)

Attachments:
Block offer 2018 - proposed blocks for consultation - Updated.docx; Block Offer 2018 Consultation Cabinet Paper - Updated.docx; 2450 17-18 Briefing - Block Offer 2018 - Proposed blocks for consultation - Updated_Sent to MO 16.03.2018.pdf

From:  
Sent:  
To:  
Subject:  

FW: 2450 17-18: Block Offer 2018 - Proposed blocks for consultation - Updated 16.03.2018 [IN-CONFIDENCE]

From:  
Sent:  
To:  
Cc:  
Subject:  

2450 17-18: Block Offer 2018 - Proposed blocks for consultation - Updated 16.03.2018 [IN-CONFIDENCE]

Hi 

Please just check attached a copy the updated Block Offer briefing and Cabinet paper – 2450 17-18: Block Offer 2018 - Proposed blocks for consultation.

If you require hardcopies as well, just let me know.

If you require anything else, just let me know.

Regards,

PA/Team Administrator For Ilana Miller, National Manager Minerals
PA/Team Administrator for Marcos Pelenur, Manager Resource Markets Policy

Energy & Resource Markets, Building, Resources & Markets Group
Ministry of Business, Innovation & Employment

Telephone:
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From: Sunday, 18 March 2018 7:49 PM
To: RE: Wording
Subject: RE: Wording

Hey,

Thanks for the feedback, let’s discuss tomorrow.

Cheers,
Does that work for you?

Cheers

Ministerial Advisor
Office of Hon James Shaw
Minister for Climate Change | Minister of Statistics | Associate Minister of Finance | Green Party Co-leader
7.03 Bowen House, Parliament Buildings, 80 Lambton Quay | Private Bag 18041 | Wellington 6160 | Aotearoa
New Zealand

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Sent: Friday, 16 March 2018 5:17 PM
To: [Email Address]
Subject: RE: Wording

The original (redacted) sent through were from the briefing — sorry did it in a rush. These are the ones from cabinet paper:

Original:

Additionally, to inform you that I intend that the Interim Climate Change Committee (Interim Committee) should consider the role of future offshore oil and gas exploration in the context of the Government’s net-zero target by 2050 and the plan to transition to 100 per cent renewable electricity by 2035.

I intend that the Interim Committee [Cab 17-MIN-0547.01 refers] should gather evidence and analysis relevant to the role of future offshore oil and gas exploration in the context of the Government’s net-zero target by 2050 and the plan to transition to 100 per cent renewable electricity by 2035.

The Interim Committee will consider the impact new offshore exploration would have on meeting the net-zero target by 2050, and the role of gas fired peaking and security of supply on the transition to 100 per cent renewable electricity generation.
The Interim Committee is due to hand over their findings to the Climate Change Commission, subject to the successful passing of the Zero Carbon Bill, by approximately mid-2019. The Commission would then make recommendations and provide advice to Government. Until that time no new offshore blocks will be offered via the Block Offer process.

Updated:

Additionally, to inform you that I intend that the Interim Climate Change Committee (Interim Committee) and Climate Change Commission should consider the role of future offshore oil and gas exploration in the context of the Government’s net-zero target by 2050 and the plan to transition to 100 per cent renewable electricity by 2035.

... I intend that the Interim Committee [Cab 17-MIN-0547.01 refers] should gather evidence and analysis relevant to the role of future offshore oil and gas exploration in the context of the Government’s net-zero target by 2050 and the plan to transition to 100 per cent renewable electricity by 2035.

The Interim Committee will consider the impact new offshore exploration would have on meeting the net-zero target by 2050, and the role of gas fired peaking and security of supply on the transition to 100 per cent renewable electricity generation.

The Interim Committee is due to hand over their findings to the Climate Change Commission, subject to the successful passing of the Zero Carbon Bill, by approximately mid-2019. The Commission would then make recommendations and provide advice to Government. Until that time no new offshore blocks will be offered via the Block Offer process.

Give me a call to discuss.

From: § 9(2)(a)
Sent: Friday, 16 March 2018 5:01 PM
To: § 9(2)(a)
Subject: Wording

Hey,

Original

We understand you intend that the Interim Committee should consider the role of future offshore oil and gas exploration in the context of the Government’s net-zero target by 2050 and the plan to transition to 100 per cent renewable electricity by 2035.

Updated:

We understand you intend that the Interim Committee and Climate Change Commission should consider the role of future offshore oil and gas exploration in the context of the Government’s net-zero target by 2050 and the plan to transition to 100 per cent renewable electricity by 2035.

Cheers,

§ 9(2)(a)
Hi Mike,

There was one permit granted in both 2016 and 2017.

Cheers,

---

From: Mike Munro
Sent: Tuesday, 20 March 2018 8:16 AM
To: @parliament.govt.nz
Cc: @parliament.govt.nz
Subject: block offer

There was apparently one successful bid in the 2016 block offer; do you know how many last year?

Cheers
Mike

Mike Munro, Chief of Staff
Office of the Prime Minister

Authorised by Jacinda Ardern MP, Parliament Buildings, Wellington
From: S 9(2)(a)  
Sent: Tuesday, 20 March 2018 1:12 PM  
To: S 9(2)(a)  
Subject: FW: Consents and jobs question [UNCLASSIFIED]

From: S 9(2)(a)  
Sent: Tuesday, 20 March 2018 1:10 PM  
To: S 9(2)(a)  
Subject: FW: Consents and jobs question [UNCLASSIFIED]

The 11000 figure is PEPANZ number which is broader and includes petrochemical related jobs (so wider than oil and gas) technically.

The updated 2016 figures are not economy wide, they were mostly centred around certain trades such as engineering. Also the report is not released publically and shared with others in confidence. The 2014 figure is from a public report.

Sent from my iPhone

On 20/03/2018, at 12:42 PM, S 9(2)(a) wrote:

Please could we get this Venture Capital figure anyway and attach the report?

There has been another quote in the media of 11,000 jobs – does anyone know where this came from and if it’s valid?

From: Marcos Pelenur [mailto:Marcos.Pelenur@mbie.govt.nz]  
Sent: Tuesday, 20 March 2018 12:34 PM  
To: S 9(2)(a)  
Cc: S 9(2)(a); S 9(2)(a)  
Subject: Re: Consents and jobs question [UNCLASSIFIED]

Venture Taranaki has an updated report but it was very micro so where we got to is that 2014 figures still most valid.

M

Sent from my iPhone

On 20/03/2018, at 12:31 PM, S 9(2)(a) wrote:

Any chance we can get more recent figures? Marcos, you mentioned 2016 figures?

From: Marcos Pelenur [mailto:Marcos.Pelenur@mbie.govt.nz]  
Sent: Tuesday, 20 March 2018 12:30 PM
To: s 9(2)(a) parliament.govt.nz; s 9(2)(a) parliament.govt.nz
Cc: s 9(2)(a) parliament.govt.nz; s 9(2)(a) parliament.govt.nz
Subject: RE: Consents and jobs question [UNCLASSIFIED]

The FTE figures are venture Taranaki numbers, not PEPANZ. We use these.

M

From: s 9(2)(a)
Sent: Tuesday, 20 March 2018 12:27 p.m.
To: s 9(2)(a) parliament.govt.nz
Cc: Marcos Pelener <Marcos.Pelener@ambie.govt.nz>; s 9(2)(a)
Subject: RE: Consents and jobs question [UNCLASSIFIED]

Hi: s 9(2)(a)

The latest expiry date for permits in the Taranaki region is 2060. Details are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Permit</th>
<th>Company</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Expire</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>52278</td>
<td>Mining Permit</td>
<td>Contact Energy</td>
<td>10.53</td>
<td>2060</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Latest info on numbers employed:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Numbers employed(^1) (FTEs)</th>
<th>Taranaki:</th>
<th>New Zealand:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Direct</td>
<td>3,936 FTEs</td>
<td>Direct</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indirect and Induced</td>
<td>5,941 FTEs</td>
<td>Direct</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FTEs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8,481</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Cheers,

s 9(2)(a)

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From: s 9(2)(a) parliament.govt.nz
Sent: Tuesday, 20 March 2018 12:14 p.m.
To: Marcos Pelener; s 9(2)(a)
Subject: Consents and jobs question

When is the end date for consents of oil and gas operators in the Taranaki region? E.g. when does the final one that's currently issued end?

Do we have the updated job figure for the Taranaki region? (apologies if this in the doc just sent over)
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**Note:** Taken from a 2014 study done by Martin Jenkins in *The smart power of New Zealand's major financial institutions to improve business and financial literacy* (downloadable at: [websites/benefits/pdfs/mart-jenkins.pdf](https://websites/benefits/pdfs/mart-jenkins.pdf)). Due to the oil and gas downturn since 2014 these numbers are likely to be underestimated compared to current figures (but are the most recent available).
From:                            
Sent:                           
To:                             
Subject:                       

Thursday, 22 March 2018 4:21 PM
#Office of Rt Hon. Jacinda Ardern;
PM opinion piece on transitioning to low carbon future


Ka kite,

Senior Press Secretary
Office of the Prime Minister of New Zealand
Hi

See attached (which I understand Greenpeace shared with the PM) and also the papers at:

Cheers

Ministerial Advisor
Office of Hon James Shaw
Minister for Climate Change | Minister of Statistics | Associate Minister of Finance | Green Party Co-Leader
7.03 Bowen House, Parliament Buildings, 80 Lambton Quay | Private Bag 18041 | Wellington 6160 | Aotearoa New Zealand

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From:  
Sent:  
To:  
Subject:  

s 9(2)(a)

Can you answer s 9(2)(a) question below.

Cheers,
s 9(2)(a)

From:  
Sent:  
To:  
Subject:  

Hi s 9(2)(a)

Will there be any papers coming for this meeting?

Thank you

Kind Regards

s 9(2)(a)

s 9(2)(a) Senior Private Secretary | Rt Hon Winston Peters | Deputy Prime Minister | Leader New Zealand First
Minister of Foreign Affairs | Minister for State Owned Enterprises | Minister for Racing | s 9(2)(a)
Parliament.govt.nz | 7.4 Executive Wing, Parliament Buildings Wellington
www.beehive.govt.nz

Sent with BlackBerry Work
(www.blackberry.com)
Good morning all,

Following discussions between our respective Chiefs of Staff, I've set aside a time for the Prime Minister to meet with your ministers (and Chiefs of Staff) on the oil and gas sector.

Could you please confirm that your ministers are available to attend a meeting on Tuesday 27 March at 3.30pm. The meeting will take place in the PM's office.

Many thanks,

§ 9(2)(a) | Senior Private Secretary
Office of the Prime Minister

§ 9(2)(a)

From:  
Sent: Monday, 26 March 2018 3:20 PM  
To:  
Cc:  
Subject: RE: FOR DIARY: Oil and Gas sector meeting  
Attachments:  

Kia Ora

Please find attached.

S.9(2)(a)
Senior Ministerial Advisor
Office of the Prime Minister

Authorised by Jacinda Ardern, Parliament Buildings, Wellington

From: S.9(2)(a)  
Sent: Friday, 23 March 2018 4:07 PM  
To: S.9(2)(a) @parliament.govt.nz
Subject: FW: FOR DIARY: Oil and Gas sector meeting

Can you answer the question below.

Cheers,

S.9(2)(a)

From: S.9(2)(a)  
Sent: Friday, 23 March 2018 4:06 PM  
To: S.9(2)(a) @parliament.govt.nz
Subject: FW: FOR DIARY: Oil and Gas sector meeting

Hi S.9(2)(a)

Will there be any papers coming for this meeting?

Thank you

Kind Regards

S.9(2)(a)
Sent with BlackBerry Work
(www.blackberry.com)

From: s92(a) <parliament.govt.nz>
Date: Wednesday, 21 Mar 2018, 9:03 AM
To: s92(a) <parliament.govt.nz>, s92(a) <parliament.govt.nz>, s92(a) <parliament.govt.nz>
Cc: Mike Munro s92(a) <parliament.govt.nz>, Jon Johansson s92(a) <parliament.govt.nz>, s92(a) <parliament.govt.nz>
Subject: FOR DIARY : Oil and Gas sector meeting

Good morning all,

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s92(a) Senior Private Secretary
Office of the Prime Minister

s92(a)