



## COVERSHEET

<b>Ministers</b>	Hon Nicola Willis	<b>Portfolio</b>	Finance
	Hon Paul Goldsmith		State Owned Enterprises
	Hon Judith Collins KC		Science, Innovation and Technology
<b>Title of Cabinet paper</b>	Weather Forecasting System Review Recommendations	<b>Date to be published</b>	15 November 2024

### List of documents that have been proactively released

<b>Date</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Author</b>
September 2024	<i>Weather Forecasting System Review Recommendations</i>	<i>Office of the Minister of Science, Innovation and Technology</i>
September 2024	<i>Weather Forecasting System Preliminary Regulatory Impact Statement</i>	<i>Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment</i>
17 September 2024	<i>Cabinet minute: EXP-24-MIN-0051</i>	<i>Cabinet Office</i>

### 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.

Some information has been withheld for the reasons of confidential advice to government and legal professional privilege.



# Cabinet Expenditure and Regulatory Review Committee

## Minute of Decision

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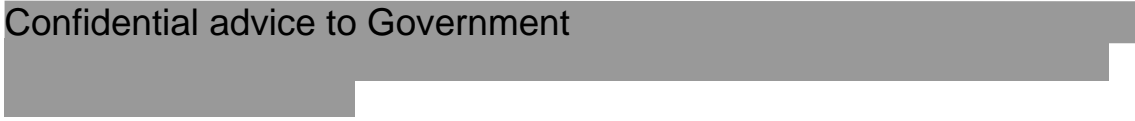
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### Weather Forecasting System Review Recommendations

**Portfolio** Finance / State Owned Enterprises / Science, Innovation and Technology

On 17 September 2024, the Cabinet Expenditure and Regulatory Review Committee:

- 1 **noted** that the Weather Forecasting System Review (WFS Review) Final Report concludes there is a compelling case for changes to the weather forecasting system, and recommends the reintegration of the Meteorological Service of New Zealand Limited (MetService) and the National Institute of Water and Atmospheric Research Limited (NIWA) to provide public good weather forecasting services;
- 2 **agreed in principle** to NIWA acquiring the MetService, with MetService being initially retained as New Zealand's authorised meteorologist, subject to further work, outlined in paragraphs 3 and 4 below, being completed;
- 3 **noted** that further work is required to understand competition impacts, fiscal implications, Treaty of Waitangi obligations, Government Superannuation Fund obligations, funding and monitoring arrangements, and legislative implications of the proposed acquisition;
- 4 **noted** that the WFS Review also recommended access to weather data be made more open within the weather forecasting system and further work will be carried out to understand options to improve data access arrangements along with the associated options, costs, benefits, risks and impacts;
- 5 **noted** that substantive advice on the structure of the transaction and other policy considerations required will be provided before Cabinet's final approval to proceed with the acquisition is sought;
- 6 **Confidential advice to Government**  

- 7 **agreed** to the inclusion of a bill on the 2024 Legislation Programme to enable the implementation of these proposals, with a category 7 priority (policy development to continue in or beyond 2024);

8 **noted** that officials will publicly release the contents of the final and interim WFS Review reports, with the appropriate redactions, within 30 business days of Cabinet approval.

Sam Moffett  
Committee Secretary

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**Present:**

Rt Hon Christopher Luxon  
Rt Hon Winston Peters  
Hon David Seymour (Chair)  
Hon Nicola Willis  
Hon Simeon Brown  
Hon Erica Stanford  
Hon Paul Goldsmith  
Hon Louise Upston  
Hon Judith Collins KC  
Hon Mark Mitchell  
Hon Simon Watts  
Hon Brooke van Velden  
Hon Shane Jones  
Hon Andrew Bayly  
Hon Chris Penk  
Hon Andrew Hoggard  
Hon Mark Patterson

**Officials present from:**

Office of the Prime Minister  
Office of the Minister for Energy  
Officials Committee for EXP