

15 May 2026

File Ref: 26-0267

Kasey McDonnell
hello@wellyclimatenerd.net

Tēnā koe Mr McDonnell

Thank you for your emails of 16 April 2026 to Te Kaunihera o Pōneke | Wellington City Council (the Council) requesting information regarding the Council's emission targets and how this correlates with Tiaki Wai. Your request has been considered under the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (LGOIMA). I have addressed your questions in turn below.

- *I'm taking a look into Council operations emissions targets for 2030. A huge amount of WCC's scope 1 and scope 2 emissions come from water services.*

1. What does that mean when Tiaki Wai takes over three waters?

When Tiaki Wai take ownership of the three water assets, emissions from the waste water treatment plants will no longer be a part of Council's Scope 1 emissions as we will no longer be the owner of those assets.

2. Will WCC count those as cuts to operational emissions, therefore achieving your target even though they've just moved onto someone else's balance sheet?

No. In accordance with the Greenhouse Gas Protocol, our base year emissions will be restated to reflect the change in ownership.

3. Or will WCC keep tracking those emissions as their own to keep consistent measurement, even though you won't have the operational decision making required for emissions cuts? If there's a third option that you're approaching the challenge with, I'd love to know cause it seems very tricky! On it's own three waters won't achieve the target. I'm still curious how this will be treated when moved onto someone else's balance sheet!

The emissions from Tiaki Wai will be recorded in Scope 3 Category 15: Investments, in proportion to our ownership percentage. This is the same as how emissions from our ownership stake in Wellington Airport are reported.

I trust this information is helpful. If you have any concerns about this response please contact official.information@wcc.govt.nz. Alternatively, you are advised of your right to raise any concerns with the Office of the Ombudsman at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

Nāku noa, nā

Chelsea McHugh
Senior Advisor Official Information
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