

10th March 2022

To: **Honourable James Shaw, Minister for Climate Change**

Dear Minister Shaw,

The undersigned leading New Zealand companies and organisations join the New Zealand Green Building Council in calling on Government to adopt the Climate Change Commission's recommendation "to have, by 31 December 2022, implemented measures to improve the energy performance of existing buildings, such as mandating participation in energy performance programmes."

This business-friendly measure would give businesses better information on the energy costs of buildings they lease, encourage improvements that would save businesses hundreds of millions of dollars a year, and cut emissions. While most emissions reductions cost money, Sense Partners analysis shows this would realise a net saving of \$600 for each tonne of emissions reduced.

By saving businesses money while cutting emissions, this would provide tangible proof that being climate-friendly can be business-friendly as well. It would also free up renewable electricity generation for electrification of industry and transport.

This can be achieved by passing legislation, as part of the implementation of Emissions Reduction Plan, to make energy performance rating, mandatory for commercial and public buildings, as the Australian Federal Parliament did in 2010.

NABERSNZ is one example, this is an energy performance rating system, for which EECA owns the New Zealand license. Certificates on buildings reduces the energy use in buildings over time by +30% as building owners take action to improve their energy performance. It is already mandated for public agencies with large offices.

In Australia, buildings using NABERS have saved over a billion dollars and seven million tonnes of carbon emissions, with 78% of Australian office space rated. Once embedded in New Zealand offices, hospitals, data centres and shopping centres, rating schemes such as this, is expected to save Kiwi businesses hundreds of millions per year and deliver carbon savings equivalent to taking 100,000 cars off the road.

That's why the below list of signatories, representing a range of concerns across New Zealand business and wider society, are urging you to deliver on the Climate Change Commission's recommendation and to legislate by June 2023 for large buildings (+2,000m²) to transparently display their energy efficiency performance.

We request a meeting with you at your earliest convenience to discuss this further.

Sincerely,



Andrew Eagles
Chief Executive, NZ Green Building Council

The following organisations, each representing hundreds or thousands of entities, support this letter

- The Sustainable Business Council represents 110 companies which contribute 34% of New Zealand's GDP
- Engineering New Zealand is the engineers professional body which supports 22,000 engineers
- The Association of Consulting and Engineering (ACENZ) represents over 200 consulting and engineering firms, ranging from large global firms to employee-owned SMEs
- The Climate Leaders Coalition - has 105 signatories, with members collectively accounting for almost 60 per cent of Aotearoa New Zealand's gross emissions, and employing 220,000 people.
- The Facilities Managers Association of New Zealand (FMANZ) represent thousands of facilities managers, the people operating New Zealand's buildings
- The Architectural Designers of New Zealand (ADNZ) is the professional body for 700 architectural designers and architects in New Zealand
- The Sustainable Business Network is New Zealand's largest, longest-standing sustainable business organisation. The network consists of hundreds of organisations and people that collectively invest in and act on system change
- Carbon and Energy Professionals New Zealand (CEPNZ) is the home of hundreds of energy efficiency and carbon reduction professionals
- The New Zealand Green Building Council represents 600 organisations working in property and construction organisations. Members have a combined market turnover of \$40bn. Local government members represent over 60% of Aotearoa New Zealand's population.

This letter is also supported by

ANZ	JLL
Architectus	Kiwi Property Group
Argosy	Mott Macdonald
Barfoot and Thompson	Norman Disney & Young
Bayleys	PMG Funds
BECA	Precinct Properties
Cosgroves Ltd	RDT Pacific
Energy Solution Providers	Sense Partners
Goodman	Stephenson & Turner
Jackson Engineering Advisers Ltd	Vector Limited
Jasmax	Warren and Mahoney