

27 March 2018

Hon David Parker, Attorney-General

**Consistency with the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990: Exclusive Economic Zone and Continental Shelf (Environmental Effects) Amendment Bill**

1. We have considered whether the Exclusive Economic Zone and Continental Shelf (Environmental Effects) Amendment Bill ('the Bill') is consistent with the rights and freedoms affirmed in the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990 ('the Bill of Rights Act').
2. We have not yet received a final version of the Bill. This advice has been prepared in relation to the latest version of the Bill (PCO 20955/2.0). We will provide you with further advice if the final version includes amendments that affect the conclusions in this advice.
3. The Bill amends the Exclusive Economic Zone and Continental Shelf (Environmental Effects) Act 2012 to enable the Minister for the Environment to recover costs associated with boards of inquiry appointed under that Act. Boards of inquiry are established to decide publicly notifiable marine consent applications for activities such as petroleum production and seabed mining.
4. We have concluded that the Bill appears to be consistent with the rights and freedoms affirmed in the Bill of Rights Act.

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