



**THE HON CHRIS BOWEN MP**  
**MINISTER FOR CLIMATE CHANGE AND ENERGY**

MS23-002861

Ms Polly Hemming  
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Dear Ms Hemming

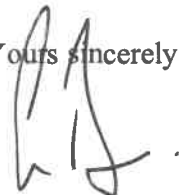
Thank you for your correspondence of 18 May 2023 regarding the handling of potential conflicts of interest by the Climate Change Authority (the Authority).

The Australian Government is committed to ensuring high standards of transparency and accountability are upheld, including on matters relating to climate change. The Authority plays a critical role in providing independent advice to the government to inform climate policy.

Given the nature of the matters raised in your letter, my department sought further information from the Authority on its management of potential conflicts of interest. I am advised that aspects of the meeting procedures adopted for the Authority's 2022 Review of International Offsets were not in keeping with relevant requirements. The Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water has made enquires with the Authority and determined the integrity of the review was maintained. I also understand the Authority has since strengthened its procedures, which are outlined in the *Authority Charter* published on its website.

The Department has examined your letter and does not accept the remaining concerns raised therein. Informed by this, I do not consider further action to be necessary. The measures the Authority has in place for managing members' interests are appropriate to facilitate compliance with relevant requirements under the *Climate Change Authority Act 2011*, the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013* and the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Rule 2014*.

Thank you for raising this matter with me.

Yours sincerely  


CHRIS BOWEN