

Your submission to Zero Carbon Bill

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Reference no: 2116

Submitter Type: Individual

Clause

1. What process should the Government use to set a new emissions reduction target in legislation?

Position

The Government sets a 2050 target in legislation now

Notes

Clause

2. If the Government sets a 2050 target now, which is the best target for New Zealand?

Position

Net Zero Long-Lived Gases and Stabilised Short-Lived Gases - Long-lived gases to net zero by 2050 while also stabilising short-lived gases

Notes

Methane emissions from farm livestock should be stabilised, ie, no net increase. Methane from livestock is a flow emission ie. a natural part of earth's constant cycling of elements. So these specific emissions need to be no net gain. This can be achieved by farming practices- it is not feasible, or necessary to reduce these to zero. Methane being unlocked from more permanent stores of this compound eg permafrost, underwater, volcanic etc. should be treated differently.

Clause

3. How should New Zealand meet its targets?

Position

Domestic emissions reductions only (including from new forest planting)

Notes

Clause

4. Should the Zero Carbon Bill allow the 2050 target to be revised if circumstances change?

Position

Yes

Notes

Targets should only be allowed to be revised downwards, not upwards, ie stricter targets, not more lenient.

Clause

5. The Government proposes that three emissions budgets of five years each (i.e. covering the next 15 years) be in place at any given time. Do you agree with this proposal?

Position

Yes

Notes

Clause

6. Should the Government be able to alter the last emissions budget (i.e. furthest into the future)?

Position

Yes - the third emissions budget should be able to be changed but only when the subsequent budget is set

Notes

Clause

7. Should the Government have the ability to review and adjust the second emissions budget within a specific range under exceptional circumstances? See p36 Our Climate Your Say

Position

Yes

Notes

Second budget should only be able to be revised downwards, ie improved & strengthened, not slackened.

Clause

8. Do you agree with the considerations we propose that the Government and the Climate Change Commission take into account when advising on and setting budgets? See p44 Our Climate Your Say

Position

Yes

Notes**Clause**

11. The Government has proposed that the Climate Change Commission advises on and monitors New Zealand's progress towards its goals. Do you agree with these functions? See p42 Our Climate Your Say

Position

Yes

Notes

But should also have the powers to decide policy.

Clause

12. What role do you think the Climate Change Commission should have in relation to the New Zealand Emissions Trading Scheme (NZ ETS)?

Position

Makes decisions itself in respect of the number of units available in the NZ ETS

Notes

Also researches internationally and sets parameters for monitoring soil carbon and soil carbon drawdown with a view to including this into any ETS scheme so that by changing farming practice farmers can offset their on-farm emissions to achieve net-zero by means of soil carbon increases. Soil carbon in pastoral sector has potential to contribute significantly to NZ's ability to meet its GHG emissions targets, and to change farming sector from bad guys to heroes.

Clause

13. The Government has proposed that Climate Change Commissioners need to have a range of essential and desirable expertise. Do you agree with the proposed expertise? See p45 Our Climate Your Say

Position

Yes

Notes

We do not want a load of policy wonks & theoreticians- also do not want just a load of techno-fixers. People with practical knowledge & skills- also some people with practical ecological knowledge would be ideal.

Clause

14. Do you think the Zero Carbon Bill should cover adapting to climate change?

Position

Yes

Notes**Clause**

15. The Government has proposed a number of new functions to help us adapt to climate change. Do you agree with the proposed functions? See p47 Our Climate Your Say

Position

Yes

Notes**Clause**

16. Should we explore setting up a targeted adaptation reporting power that could see some organisations share information on their exposure to climate change risks?

Position

Yes

Notes**Clause**

Do you have any other comments you'd like to make?

Notes

Just to reiterate the importance of Regenerative Farming to our climate adaptation plans. This whole area is currently missing from government & climate change commission's thinking. In Tai Tokerau we are setting up a climate change trust and regenerative farming is one of our key approaches for tackling climate change for the region. We have people available to talk to the CC Commission about the value of taking a regenerative farming approach for NZ, as well as farms to see this in action.