

Your submission to Zero Carbon Bill

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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 Carbon Dioxide - Reducing net carbon dioxide emissions to zero by 2050

Notes

Clause

3. How should New Zealand meet its targets?

Position

Domestic emissions reductions only (including from new forest planting)

Notes

At present only forestry is considered to be a carbon sink, whereas fast growing plants are not recognised. Such as grass and flax (riparian plantings).

Clause

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

Position

Yes

Notes

More research on cows etc producing methane is underway and the results of this could have considerable bearing on what needs to be done.

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?

Notes

Insufficient information to make a decision. At present only forestry is considered to be a carbon sink, whereas fast growing plants are not recognised. Such as grass and flax (riparian plantings).

Clause

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

Position

Yes - each incoming Government should have the option to review the third budget in the sequence

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

We don't know what climate change is going to do.

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

9. Should the Zero Carbon Bill require Governments to set out plans within a certain timeframe to achieve the emissions budgets?

Position

Yes

Notes

It needs to be able to be reviewed regularly as circumstances change. But a plan is needed.

Clause

10. What are the most important issues for the Government to consider in setting plans to meet budgets? For example, who do we need to work with, what else needs to be considered?

Notes

Work with forestry - because forestry needs to respect waterways as do farmers. Forestry companies need to plant the riparian strip to prevent (a) waste going into waterways after harvesting, (b) to keep a continuous barrier between pine exudate and waterways to ensure streamlife remains healthy. (c) to prevent soil erosion. (d) this would also ensure some carbon sinking continues during harvesting.

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

Advisory with mechanisms built in to hold a government to account.

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

Advising the Government on policy settings in the NZ ETS

Notes

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

Amazing if you can get people with all that expertise! People with a practical point of view are important. Not all theoretical, academic and narrow point of views.

Clause

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

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?

Notes

maybe.... this seems to be happening at present. There needs to be good communication between all groups and the population.

Clause

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

Notes

At present only forestry is considered to be a carbon sink, whereas fast growing plants are not recognised. Such as grass, cabbage trees, manuka and flax (riparian plantings). Riparian planting should be undertaken for all new developments to protect waterways and to act as a carbon sink in town and country. When making decisions about different communities and regions there should be

opportunities for those with local knowledge to have input as in the past decisions have been made by groups of people in Wellington that do not take into account local conditions and things that could easily be solved by good communication with all parties. For example: Spending huge amounts of money on the Brynderwyn Hills when the problem had been solved by reducing the speed limit to 80 kph. (Information from local Fire Parties who attend accidents in that area). And now they are talking about building a whole new motorway away from the Brynderwyns. A waste of taxpayers money. Very poor planning. Let's not make the same mistake twice.