Your submission to Zero Carbon Bill

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Submitter Type: Business / Industry

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

Position
The Government sets a goal to reach net zero emissions by the second half of the century and the Climate Change Commission advises on the specific target for the Government to set later

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
many farms already have stabilised short lived gasses

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
Technology could influence rate of change. Actual climate change data could differ from that predicted by the IPCC

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
No

Notes

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

Clause
9. Should the Zero Carbon Bill require Governments to set out plans within a certain timeframe to achieve the emissions budgets?
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
A budget in NZ cannot be set in isolation. The question must be asked 'will the action we take result in a global reduction of a particular gas. If NZ converts its transport fleet to electric there will be a global reduction in CO2. If methane is treated in the same way as CO2 but our trading partners do not include methane there will be no reduction in global methane emissions and in all likelihood an increase because of a transfer of meat and dairy production to less efficient countries.

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

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
No

Notes

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

Position
Yes

Notes

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

Notes
Currently regenerating scrub and bush is not available for carbon offsets. This is not equitable. Any reduction in livestock numbers will have a cooling effect because of reduced methane emissions. These reductions should be rewarded in the same way that forestry planting is in terms of carbon credits.