

# Consultation on setting New Zealand's post-2020 climate change target



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## Contact information

Name Tom Anderson

Organisation (if applicable)

Address [REDACTED]

Telephone [REDACTED]

Email [REDACTED]

## Objectives for the contribution

Do you agree with these objectives for our contribution? Yes

1b. What is most important to you?

This language seems to be quite ambivalent. "Fair and ambitious" means different things to people, depending on which side of the argument you are on. "Costs and impact to society" is again very woolly. I don't see how anyone could disagree with the above statements as they don't really commit you to much of anything!

What is important to me is creating a world that is safe and habitable for my children and grandchildren. To do this we must impose strict carbon emission targets which we then adhere to.

The impact to society if we don't aim for zero carbon emissions outweighs any short term pain.

What would be a fair contribution for New Zealand?

2. What do you think the nature of New Zealand's emissions and economy means for the level of target that we set?

I think that as we generate lots of power domestically that we are ideally placed to be a world leader in this field. Let's show them how it's done!

We should be setting a long term target (2100) of zero carbon emissions.

How will our contribution affect New Zealanders?

3. What level of cost is appropriate for New Zealand to reduce its greenhouse gas emissions? For example, what would be a reasonable reduction in annual household consumption?

I don't know how you are measuring consumption here. From your table 40% below 1990 levels is appropriate. I don't know why this is at the high end on your table! \$1,800 PA is nothing to secure our future!

Either you curtail people's consumption in the short term, or it will drastically decline in a short period in a few years. I think it's better to have a managed approach than a huge shock.

I don't think there is an upper limit to how much consumption should be curtailed. People aren't any happier than they were 50 years ago. A concerted education program from the government would be good in this area. We can work together as a nation of Kiwis to build a more habitable future. We should be looking to green tech in as many areas as possible so we can reduce our emissions.

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4. Of the opportunities for New Zealand to reduce its emissions (as outlined on page 15 of the discussion document), which do you think are the most likely to occur, or be most important for New Zealand?  
Electric vehicles and a move away from oil.

I don't think energy efficiencies and the "cost" to households should be primary. You can add a tax to the top earners and redirect it to low income so that no-one in society suffers.

## Summary

5. How should New Zealand take into account the future uncertainties of technologies and costs when setting its target?

Consider the uncertainties with undertaking any technological endeavour. Maybe consider the uncertainties involved in offshore oil drilling!

Any field of human exploration is full of uncertainties. This didn't stop us climbing to the top of the highest mountain in the world, or venturing into space.

Set the target of 40% below 1990 levels by 2030, and then we can use our ingenuity to get there. Set the target. Be ambitious!

## Other comments

6. Is there any further information you wish the Government to consider? Please explain.  
I think the discussion document is weighted firmly on the financial risks associated with cutting emissions. As though it's something we can ignore or buy ourselves out of later. Unfortunately it doesn't work like that.

I would also like to add that I was dismayed at the way the public consultations were handled. I can see billboards all over the place relating to having a new flag, but I have only heard about this consultation through environmental groups.

I wonder if you're doing it like this because you're scared of what the population as a whole thinks on the issue. However if many people are concerned about climate change then surely it's more politically palatable to raise these issues? I can only speculate as to the poor coverage of these events, but I hope you take that into account when you go through these submissions, as I suspect only a small proportion of New Zealanders who care about these issues are aware that this process exists.