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

Copy of your submission

Contact information

Name
Organisation (if applicable)
Address
Telephone
Email

Objectives for the contribution

Do you agree with these objectives for our contribution?  No

1b. What is most important to you?
"Fair" and "Ambitious" are not defined clearly enough. As they stand they mean very little. You don't have a "long term". Get informed. They costs are already being loaded onto the least able to protect themselves. They are not being managed with any equity or justice. They are, quite wrongly, protecting entrenched interests, at our expense.

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?
New Zealand's "target" needs to take into account the prosperity and survival of the whole population not just those vested interests who have direct and funded access to Parliament. For a more equal and economically buoyant country we need to be well informed, resilient and actively aware of the financial and economic opportunities that present themselves with a quickly evolving climate. To rest on, and protect industries from the inevitable difficulties that have arrived with climate change is being negligent in your duty of Government.

How will our contribution affect New Zealanders?

3. What level of cost is appropriate for New Zealand to reduce it's greenhouse gas emissions? For example, what would be a reasonable reduction in annual household consumption?
It will not be hard to motivate and involve the population once they are aware of the dangers and opportunities available. Our "restrained" contribution is already costing us dearly as our image abroad as a forward thinking "clean and Green" tourist destination has been severely compromised by the very limited action our Governments have taken. The cost to Dairying alone will be huge as there is no proactive expenditure being located in this industry to build resilience. They are sitting ducks to even mild climate change events as they believe, naively, that what they are presently doing is fine. This docile and dormant attitude will have profound economic and social costs. You, as Government cannot spend enough to save money in the future. The real obstacle is an ignorant Government and an inward looking Dairy industry which has almost sealed its own fate. You are well aware that a dollar spent now is going to save you many dollars in the future.

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?
Coal fired power stations, petrol and diesel motors, hydro generation (they are vulnerable to drought).
5. How should New Zealand take into account the future uncertainties of technologies and costs when setting its target?

There are very few technologies that NZ is brave enough to adopt before someone else has tried them. We are talking about an extremely high return on investment for money spent on protecting infrastructure and industry. Catastrophic and rapid change will occur in a non-linear fashion when we least expect it. We know this from recent Earthquakes, droughts and flooding events. Lord Stern is the authority and has the figures to help you. Read him and act. Anything less is immoral, unethical, corrupt and a dereliction of duty.

Other comments

6. Is there any further information you wish the Government to consider? Please explain.

Yes. The weight of evidence is here. Why so tardy? To protect certain industries for political purposes is not performing the duty of Government. If we believe in the open market, and I do, they we believe that natural selection will prevail. If we are smart enough, fast enough and are not answerable to the loaded (and primitive) ideologies of others, they we will thrive. Anything less in the current and imminent "climate" will be fatal!