

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



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Contact information

Name

Organisation (if applicable)

Address

Telephone

Email

Objectives for the contribution

Do you agree with these objectives for our contribution? Yes

1b. What is most important to you?

We must have an ambitious target and lead the way. The world is used to NZ leading the way and on this issue we have been tardy.

It is interesting that the costs and impacts section in the discussion document mentions nothing about the costs of not taking action. This is where the emphasis should be.

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?

We are a wealthy country. We must demonstrate that we are serious and set ambitious targets regardless of industry lobby groups.

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?

Perhaps households could commit to reducing emissions to half the national average.

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?

"A transition to a low-carbon economy leads to greater energy security and limits our vulnerability to oil price volatility, supply disruptions and potentially high future carbon prices."

I think it is critical to the future of our civilisation that we learn to limit our population and decouple economic growth from consumption of non-renewable resources.

Summary

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

We should be ambitious and plan for a worst case scenario. It is very unlikely that some magic technology will

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rescue us but if it does, then the other benefits of a reduced emission society will still accrue to us.

Other comments

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

If the government trots out the argument that we should not do much because our emissions as a country are insignificant in the global picture, as they have in the past, then perhaps I should stop paying tax as my tax bill is insignificant compared to the whole tax take.