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

Copy of your submission

Contact information

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Objectives for the contribution

Do you agree with these objectives for our contribution?   Yes

1b. What is most important to you?
Having a fair and ambitious contribution - both by international and domestic audiences.

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 need to reduce our greenhouse gas emissions to 20% less than our 1990 levels across all emissions groups by 2030. We need to pledge that at Paris, and we need to achieve it. We also need to ask clearer questions, and be more direct.

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?
Whatever is needed. This problem must be corrected now, while we still have time to fix it. All the impacts of different reductions in consumption in the discussion document are completely acceptable.

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?
All of them. They are all likely to be needed, they will all create many local opportunities as we start to deal with the problem, and they will all create huge international recognition of our contribution to solving the problem if we focus in an effective way.

Summary

5. How should New Zealand take into account the future uncertainties of technologies and costs when setting its target?
We need to do whatever is necessary to achieve our target. Trying to make sure that we are somewhere in the middle of the pack is hugely dangerous to us and the whole world. There is no point in making sure that we can continue to maintain production if the people in our overseas markets and the world economy are being decimated by uncontrollable climate change. It is time to stop being timid managers and start to show leadership.
Other comments

6. Is there any further information you wish the Government to consider? Please explain. There is a great need to start to talk about this in all our communities. This consultation process, though valuable, is just a start. It allowed very little time, and doing that sent the main signal that it being treated by the government as a tick the box exercise. Again, it is time to stop being timid managers and start to show leadership. We need to deal with this.