BLUESKIN BAY WATCH INCORPORATED SOCIETY.

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Climate change consultation contribution:
BLUESKIN BAY WATCH INCORPORATED SOCIETY
Submission on New Zealand’s post 2020 climate change target.

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Blueskin Baywatch Incorporated Society is committed to maintaining or improving the current character of the Blueskin Bay and Dunedin North Coast area and community in a sustainable manner.

The Objects of the Society are to:

1. Advocate for sustainable development which retains the intrinsic character of the Area, Community and Environs.
2. Promote the values of ownership, tolerance and inclusiveness within the community.
3. Advocate towards protecting and enhancing the natural flora & fauna of the area.
4. Act as an identity and a conduit for communication with the local political bodies and governing authorities.
5. Act as an identity and a conduit for liaison with potential developers in the area.
6. Act as a legal entity, able if necessary, to present cases to bodies such as local political bodies, governing authorities, the Environment Court, High Court or Court of Appeal.
7. Carry out actions to further the principles and other objectives of the Society.

The members of Blueskin Bay Watch live in small coastal communities close to a main centre (Dunedin). Many are active in community organisations seeking to build resilience into our communities and ways to lower our carbon footprint.

We are very aware of the effects that future sea level rise could bring to our homes and infrastructure. We understand that transition to a low carbon economy will bring with it enormous challenges. We also know that there will be impacts impossible to predict.

Nevertheless, we believe the most important thing is to protect NZ from dangerous temperature rises. The emissions reduction target should be science led and the government should be guided by the scientifically recognised targets already in place.

A target is not enough though, we need a moral and financial commitment from the government and an action plan for getting there.
There are economic opportunities and advantages of an early transition to a low carbon economy and this aspect was entirely missing from the government’s discussion document.

Please set a strong target at Paris. A minimum of 40% emissions reduction (equal to the EU pledge) is necessary to prevent serious effects to our way of life, our economy and our environment.

This document is the official submission from Blueskin Bay Watch Incorporated Society and was close to a unanimous decision.

Thank you.