

# Setting New Zealand's post-2020 climate change target

## Submission form

The Government is seeking views on New Zealand's post-2020 climate change contribution under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).

You can have your say by making a submission using this form or using the online tool available at [www.mfe.govt.nz/more/consultations](http://www.mfe.govt.nz/more/consultations).

For more information about this consultation:

- Read our [Consultation on New Zealand's post-2020 international climate change contribution web page](#)
- Read our discussion document: [New Zealand's Climate Change Target: Our contribution to the new international climate change agreement](#)

**Submissions close at 5.00pm on Wednesday 3 June 2015.**

## Publishing and releasing submissions

All or part of any written submission (including names of submitters), may be published on the Ministry for the Environment's website [www.mfe.govt.nz](http://www.mfe.govt.nz). Unless you clearly specify otherwise in your submission, we will consider that you have consented to website posting of both your submission and your name.

Contents of submissions may be released to the public under the Official Information Act 1982 following requests to the Ministry for the Environment (including via email). Please advise if you have any objection to the release of any information contained in a submission and, in particular, which part(s) you consider should be withheld, together with the reason(s) for withholding the information. We will take into account all such objections when responding to requests for copies of, and information on, submissions to this consultation under the Official Information Act.

The Privacy Act 1993 applies certain principles about the collection, use and disclosure of information about individuals by various agencies, including the Ministry for the Environment. It governs access by individuals to information about themselves held by agencies. Any personal information you supply to the Ministry in the course of making a submission will be used by the Ministry only in relation to the matters covered by this consultation. Please clearly indicate in your submission if you do not wish your name to be included in any summary of submissions that the Ministry may publish.

## Questions to guide your feedback

Your submission may address any aspect of the discussion document, but we would appreciate you paying particular attention to the questions posed throughout and listed in this form. You may answer some or all of the questions. To ensure your point of view is clearly understood, you should explain your rationale and provide supporting evidence where appropriate.

### Contact information

Name	Siobhan Bremen
Organisation (if applicable)	
Address	████████████████████
Telephone	████████
Email	████████████████████

### Objectives for the contribution

1a. We have set the following three objectives for our contribution:

- it is seen as a fair and ambitious contribution – both by international and domestic audiences
- costs and impacts on society are managed appropriately
- it must guide New Zealand over the long term in the global transition to a low emissions world.

Do you agree with these objectives for our contribution?

- Yes
- No

1b. What is most important to you?

### 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 believe that we should still be aiming to achieve the IPCC specified target even though some may believe, from the information provided, that there are difficulties in reducing certain emissions eg: from agriculture. From 'Figure 2' provided on page 9 we can clearly see that the agriculture sector is our major contributor to emissions in New Zealand. Even though some of the mentioned solutions are not yet available I do not think this should hinder us any longer in continuing to make changes to this sector or searching for other solutions; work harder to achieve these, such as reducing the 10-20 year availability target of vaccines/inhibitors and aim to reduce this gap to 5-10 years. I understand it is not quite as simple as this, however if we all know that methane produced by sheep and cattle is contributing to 44% of NZ's greenhouse gas emissions then this should be our top priority; something which contributes as largely as this is surely important enough to be pushed forward.

The government should consider increasing funding to develop such solutions which will not only benefit our immediate environment (eliminating 44% of greenhouse gas emissions) but as a whole, our world. With this knowledge and technology, NZ can then export these experts to help solve issues in other parts of our world.

Furthermore, I believe that 'biological emissions' should be part of the NZETS – Figure 2 is again enough proof as to why this should be. Why were they not included in the first place?

## 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 do you think would be a reasonable impact on annual household consumption?**

Whatever it takes! The cost of climate change and the negative effects it has on every aspect of this planet is surely far greater than the cost imposed upon us human beings for the damage we have caused this planet. We need to be held accountable for the negative impacts we have placed on our world and need to start taking responsibility wherever this be through certain restrictions or higher taxes etc etc. I believe any level of cost reasonable/appropriate to households. The longer we leave it, the worse emissions are going to get, the more time it will take to reduce these emissions (if at all) and the more money it will cost. Either way we need to be taking action now or the damage will soon become irreversible.

### **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?**

The most likely to occur is Electric Vehicle uptake. I believe the Government should commit to converting the majority of their fleet to electric vehicles over the next 5 years. This will significantly reduce emissions and prove electric vehicles to the general public while benefiting the economy.

However, I believe the impact that the agricultural sector is having on climate change should be our number one priority. New Zealand has an opportunity to lead the world in developing solutions to reduce biological emissions.

## Summary

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

## Other comments

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

I firmly believe that there needs to be more education around such issues in schools. This should somehow be incorporated into the National Secondary School Curriculum and New Zealand children should be able to have their say or express their ideas with regards to their country/world. It would be beneficial to somehow instill accountability, passion and mindfulness through such issues and get the future generations in such a mindset from an early age. What ever we do we need to do now – no more excuses, no more holding back, no more complacency.

I feel, on occasion, the issues of climate change are not take as seriously as they should be. People need to understand that climate change and the damages caused by it are real threats and have the greatest potential to become irreversable. In some way or another, people in authority need to be making all aspects of the public aware of these issues on a regular basis regardless of your culture, background or even political stance. This is not something which one side should implement over another. It is somethich which calls for us all to become bigger and better than we are, regardless of where we stand. We all need to work together on these issues and we need to do it now.

## When your submission is complete

Email your completed submission to [climate.contribution@mfe.govt.nz](mailto:climate.contribution@mfe.govt.nz) or post to Climate Change Contribution Consultation, Ministry for the Environment, PO Box 10362, Wellington 6143.

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