

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?

it must guide New Zealand over the long term in the global transition to a low emissions world.

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?

Target should be 50% or less by 2050. Thus we will need to reduce by 25% by 2020.

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?

Household consumption reduction would be relatively easy but not enough.

The important reduction will have to be in Agriculture (50% of NZ emissions) which could be done by reducing stock numbers, reducing emissions from the stock, or mitigating it by retaining trees.

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 important aspect is to reduce Agricultural ruminant emissions, while sustaining the economy.

The government has funded some successful initiatives in this area but that funding is due to end. The government should put more funding into this area.

Technologies for reducing methanogen emissions, or Nitrous oxide emission have begun to be developed. Their use in NZ and worldwide would have a much greater impact on emissions than any small domestic reductions.

Summary

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

NZ has a opportunity to lead the world in reducing ruminant emissions. The cost of not acting will be greater than the cost of acting to reduce these.

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Environment
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Other comments

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

As I have outlined above the key potential reduction is in ruminant emissions without destroying the economy. This is where the main NZ focus should be. It could be in developing technologies, education for uptake by farmers, or promoting higher profit/yield from less animals, etc. This is likely to benefit NZ economy- making money not costing it.