

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



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Objectives for the contribution

Do you agree with these objectives for our contribution? No

1b. What is most important to you?

I question the use of the word "fair." Fair for whom? A handful of investors or fair for the people of New Zealand? The government has shown that it cannot be trusted to be fair to the people. As for costs, we cannot afford NOT to change our thinking. Think long term, not short term gain for a few corporations. The costs of continuing on the present course are incredible and will result in the economic and physical destruction of our world. The costs of changing our thinking to a sustainable economy are actually quite small in comparison and will result in a much more stable and resilient economy, not one based on speculation and short-term gain.

New Zealand is poised to be and indeed should be a world-leader on this issue. We have the technology, we have the know-how and we have the will. What we don't have is a government that can see beyond its own limited self interest.

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 don't need targets. We need a complete change in thinking.

New Zealand can have a great economy whilst eliminating emissions and growing a green technology sector

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?

Everyone should do as much as they can. With some pretty minor adjustments, most individuals can live really well and sustainably.

What will be affected, and needs to be affected, is the agricultural and energy sectors. They need to change how they do things. Now, not in five years. But if they change now, they can still make lots of money in the future and we can all have a habitable planet. Stubborn greed needs to turn into long-term thinking and realize that it is not that difficult or expensive to be sustainable. And it will yield a much more profitable future.

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?

Once again, you missed the point. We need to eliminate as much as possible fossil fuel use and the incentives and corruption that go with it. A switch to organic sustainable agriculture will result in higher quality and better yields

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Ministry for the
Environment
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and a more stable economy

Summary

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

The technologies exist now. There are no uncertainties. We cannot afford to wait. Putting this off will cost MUCH more than changing to a sustainable economy now.

Other comments

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

We do not have five years to act. We need to change now. And we need a government who can actually lead and not worship Wall Street.

It is simple: change from short term thinking that benefits precious few to long term thinking that benefits New Zealanders.