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?
Humans manages and mitigates their negative impacts on the environment and NZ does it fair share in a 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?
The aim should be to place adequate incentives and penalties to incentivise all NZ’er to reduce emissions and the negative impact on the world. Need to move away from the current guiding principals which appear to be to minimise the cost of any commitment to climate change. Currently that is buying in cheap international credits which is removing any incentive to do the right thing for the environment

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?
As NZ’er emissions per head of population is unacceptably high. This needs to be reduced. Currently accepting of increases as long as we offset with international credits. Until NZ government accepts any target is a real target on emissions generated in NZ any target is meaningless. With the right incentive we could lead the world and set aggressive targets and invest in technology to achieve them. Not abdicate responsibility and buying in credits. Suggest 50% real reduction on currently emission levels.

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?
Reduced animal emissions. - research and incentives needed.
Planting forests - incentives needs.
Incentivise uptake of electric vehicle. Subsidised charging infrastructure (as have done with broadband)

NZ carbon market needs reform to eliminate international credits and set a minimum not a maximum price on carbon.
Carbon trading is a good vehicle if the government stops distorting with 2 for 1 deals, cheap international credits and max not minimum prices
The cost to the world and the next generation of getting this wrong is too high to take halve measures. Need to do
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everything we can to eliminate and mitigate emissions. Build a green economy. Show leadership.

Summary

5. How should New Zealand take into account the future uncertainties of technologies and costs when setting its target?
Needs to be scope to over deliver not none to under deliver. Technology changes should be positive, uncertainties are likely to have underestimated the impact on the environment. May need to set targets more aggressive. No scope for easing targets.

Other comments

6. Is there any further information you wish the Government to consider? Please explain.
Take responsibility of own emissions
Keep ETS but reform it to provide the right incentive to eliminate emissions and mitigate impacts.
Set min no max price on carbon
Stop importing carbon credits when we have not control over how they are gained.
Look at the cost of doing nothing when considering the cost of mitigation. Raising water levels, increased climatic uncertainty, more extreme events, destroyed fisheries. Changed growing environments for horticulture, more climatic refugees.