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

Copy of your submission

Contact information

Name   Owen Chambers

Organisation (if applicable)

Address

Telephone

Email

Objectives for the contribution

Do you agree with these objectives for our contribution?   Yes

1b. What is most important to you?
I believe New Zealand needs to seriously address the issue of climate change by taking a lead regionally, and globally to ensure our country remains what it is for future generations. I believe this can be done through low-to-no carbon technologies and innovations that create a sustainable economy and country.

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?
Our targets should be measurable against other countries regardless of their emission sizes, meaning they should use similar criteria.
We should do more to target our problem area of agriculture that contribute methane, one of the worst greenhouse gases.
An achievable goal, yet one that would set the tone for future submissions should be to produce all energy from renewable sources. A quick transition to 100% renewable energy production is something we can and should do as soon as possible.

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?
Price parity between clean technologies and traditional energy production has been achieved! no greater costs need to be involved.
Solar and other clean innovation and technology costs continue to plummet! the only costs that need to be considered are those that will be incurred if we stick with the status quo! Old and inefficient business strategy, models and technologies need to be replaced by the efficiency of modern strategy, technology etc.

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?
Energy production has the ability to be produced 100% through renewable sources. Technology and business strategy is tested and proven overseas and with a large majority of our current energy production done through renewables already, 100% is an achievable target.
With expected technological improvements, 100% is achievable, however it would not be surprising if technological advances exceeded expectations to further drive down initial capital and running costs. Price parity in energy
production has been achieved through renewables and it no longer becomes a moral and environmental issue, but an economic and business one.

Summary

5. How should New Zealand take into account the future uncertainties of technologies and costs when setting its target? Technologies develop quickly and so far expectations have been understated. We can expect technology to keep pace with or likely exceed our requirements. An ambitious approach will only do more to encourage innovation and technological advancement. We can almost be sure that targets we set will not exceed the capabilities of current technology, let alone expected future ones.

Other comments

6. Is there any further information you wish the Government to consider? Please explain. Divestment of fossil fuels from KiwiSaver portfolio. Electric Vehicle (EV) initiatives such as car sharing and subsidies for market uptake. Public transport support and creation linking suburbs to working areas.