

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



Copy of your submission

Contact information

Name Marina Bachmann

Organisation (if applicable) Collectively Kids Ltd

Address [REDACTED]

Telephone

Email collectivelykids@xtra.co.nz

Objectives for the contribution

Do you agree with these objectives for our contribution?

1b. What is most important to you?

This feedback is from the owner and teachers at Collectively Kids an ECE centre

It is important to us that the government's response to climate change :
Focusses on ensuring an environmentally sustainable present and future (our main responsibility as human beings is to secure the survival of future generations)
Prepares us for the worst case scenario (we can still hope for the best)
Is courageous and ambitious in terms of emissions targets
Recognises NZ's obligations to our neighbours in the Pacific who are already suffering from the impact of climate change and face a great deal of uncertainty

We think everyone has the right to a sustainable present and future but to achieve that requires immediate global action and we would like NZ to demonstrate leadership.

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?

If we want to have any chance of limiting the impact of global warming to 2C then emissions have to be cut significantly in the very near future. While a reduction in emissions in NZ has little impact in terms of global emissions it would have an enormous impact in a number of other ways:

We would make rapid progress in terms of adaptation (including sustainable food production, business practices etc.)

We would be demonstrating leadership and a commitment to the other Pacific nations and to future generations
It would create the need for rapid innovation

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?

It is essential that the cost of climate change is included in any economic analysis. The long term cost of our cheapest option (doing very little) will be far greater than the cost of doing what's needed (a minimum target of a 40% emissions reduction in emissions below 1990 levels by 2030).

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Ministry for the
Environment
Manatū Mo Te Taiao

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We are sure that if the people of NZ fully understood the seriousness of climate change they would be prepared to put up with a bit of hardship, however the most vulnerable people would need to be protected and it should be recognised that households are not the main source of emissions. Industries and businesses (like ours, but particularly those most responsible) and the wealthier members of society (like us) should make a bigger contribution to the cost of emission reductions.

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?

Summary

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

These uncertainties are unknown. We need to act on the information and possibilities with have now and there is lots of both!

Other comments

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