

# Your submission to Zero Carbon Bill

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## Reference no: 1777

Submitter Type: Individual

### Clause

1. What process should the Government use to set a new emissions reduction target in legislation?

### Position

The Government sets a goal to reach net zero emissions by the second half of the century and the Climate Change Commission advises on the specific target for the Government to set later

### Notes

The Climate Change Commission should be tasked with further analysis and disclosure of: 1. Cause and effect of emissions in a technical sense; 2. Provision of a range of options for the way forward; 3. Full disclosure of economic costs and benefits of each option; and 4. Recommended option which should then be submitted to a binding public referendum.

### Clause

2. If the Government sets a 2050 target now, which is the best target for New Zealand?

### Notes

None of these are appropriate without further analysis of the effects on New Zealand and its place in the international context.

### Clause

3. How should New Zealand meet its targets?

### Notes

To discuss 'how' is premature, given the paucity of information disclosure.

### Clause

4. Should the Zero Carbon Bill allow the 2050 target to be revised if circumstances change?

### Position

Yes

### Notes

### Clause

5. The Government proposes that three emissions budgets of five years each (i.e. covering the next 15 years) be in place at any given time. Do you agree with this proposal?

### Position

No

### Notes

Again budget setting should follow the democratic agreement of the way forward. If any budget is set it should be restricted to the cost of providing the necessary analysis and information dissemination to allow an informed debate and subsequent referendum..

### Clause

6. Should the Government be able to alter the last emissions budget (i.e. furthest into the future)?

### Notes

Each in-coming Government should be able to review the way forward at any point and not be restricted to only the third budget as suggested. This will be appropriate as more and better information becomes progressively available.

### Clause

7. Should the Government have the ability to review and adjust the second emissions budget within a specific range under exceptional circumstances? See p36 Our Climate Your Say

### Notes

See notes under q.6 above

### Clause

8. Do you agree with the considerations we propose that the Government and the Climate Change Commission take into account when advising on and setting budgets? See p44 Our Climate Your Say

**Position**

Yes  
**Notes**  
On the proviso that the definition of a 'sustainable economy' covers correctly weighted triple bottom line outputs.

**Clause**

9. Should the Zero Carbon Bill require Governments to set out plans within a certain timeframe to achieve the emissions budgets?

**Position**

Yes

**Notes****Clause**

10. What are the most important issues for the Government to consider in setting plans to meet budgets? For example, who do we need to work with, what else needs to be considered?

**Notes**

Democratically agreed plans on the way forward should precede budgets. Broad public discussion surrounding a binding referendum would generate the considerations and issues to be taken into account.

**Clause**

11. The Government has proposed that the Climate Change Commission advises on and monitors New Zealand's progress towards its goals. Do you agree with these functions? See p42 Our Climate Your Say

**Position**

No

**Notes**

If any I favour option two on page 42 - Advisory, with mechanisms built in to hold Government to account. Similar to the UK.

**Clause**

12. What role do you think the Climate Change Commission should have in relation to the New Zealand Emissions Trading Scheme (NZ ETS)?

**Position**

Advising the Government on policy settings in the NZ ETS

**Notes**

If any role is given to the Commission then I favour the Parliamentary Commissioner for the Environment's suggestion - that the Commission provides advice prior to any change a Government might seek to make to ETS settings.

**Clause**

13. The Government has proposed that Climate Change Commissioners need to have a range of essential and desirable expertise. Do you agree with the proposed expertise? See p45 Our Climate Your Say

**Position**

Yes

**Notes**

However business competitiveness expertise should be essential as knowledge and experience in this area will be required to contribute to risk management, engineering and community engagement.

**Clause**

14. Do you think the Zero Carbon Bill should cover adapting to climate change?

**Position**

Yes

**Notes****Clause**

15. The Government has proposed a number of new functions to help us adapt to climate change. Do you agree with the proposed functions? See p47 Our Climate Your Say

**Position**

No

**Notes****Clause**

16. Should we explore setting up a targeted adaptation reporting power that could see some organisations share information on their exposure to climate change risks?

**Position**

No

**Notes**

**Clause**

Do you have any other comments you'd like to make?

**Notes**

I believe that this proposed Bill is premature and should be preceded by rigorous information disclosure of cause and effect and cost/benefit. Public debate should be sought to determine a course of action for NZ, (a sovereign nation) preferably by way of a binding referendum.