

Your submission to Zero Carbon Bill

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Reference no: 2091

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

It needs an independent body to avoid political pressure from industry.

Clause

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

Position

Net Zero Emissions - Net zero emissions across all greenhouse gases by 2050

Notes

As the century progresses the destruction of our way of life will become apparent and there will be a great sense of urgency to achieve results. The sooner we get started the easier it will be.

Clause

3. How should New Zealand meet its targets?

Notes

To stabilize the climate we will have to remove CO2 from the atmosphere and trees are probably the cheapest and easiest. It will probably not be enough but its a start.

Clause

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

Position

Yes

Notes

Climate change will almost certainly be much worse than we think at the moment.

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

Yes

Notes

There is a lot to be done and changing from fossil fuels to renewables is not expensive if equipment is replaced with clean versions as the existing equipment wears out.

Clause

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

Position

No - emissions budgets should not be able to be changed

Notes

Politicians are easily swayed by industry.

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

Position

No

Notes

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**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

We need to stick to a long term plan and not change like the USA and Australia.

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

many sectors of industry such as farmers and transport need help to transition to clean energy as they are currently very poorly informed of the harsh facts.

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

Yes

Notes

As I have already mentioned, politicians are easily swayed by industry and short term political gain.

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

Makes decisions itself in respect of the number of units available in the NZ ETS

Notes

If we have set a target we need professional and scientific advice on the solutions not rhetoric.

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

Scientific advice. Much closer in time with the latest research than the IPCC.

Clause

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

Position

No

Notes

Probably not but we have to do what we can.

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

Yes

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

Yes

Notes

We will shortly experience the start of even more extreme weather events and in a few decades will have sea level pulses where we will lose Auckland and Wellington airports as well as a lot of other infrastructure which will cripple the economy.

<http://www.climateoutcome.kiwi.nz/latest-posts--news/rapid-sea-level-rise-due-to-sudden-collapse-of-ice>

Clause

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

Notes

The combination of rapid sea level rise, warming and acidification of the oceans and changing weather patterns all coming together will adversely alter our way of life and we need to be prepared to protect our people.