

Your submission to Zero Carbon Bill

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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 2050 target in legislation now

Notes

We do not have time to delay as the effects of climate change are happening now.

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

All gasses are affecting climate change. Methane produced by ruminants must be included as they are such a huge contributor of our total greenhouse emissions

Clause

3. How should New Zealand meet its targets?

Position

Domestic emissions reductions (including from new forest planting) and using some emissions reductions from overseas (international carbon units) that have strong environmental safeguards

Notes

Also there should be support of, and perhaps reward for green technology and innovation. Change to electric vehicles and support for vehicle sharing, cycling and improved public transport.

Clause

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

Position

Yes

Notes

Yes but only in reducing it sooner if innovations prove effective or if climate change progresses more rapidly

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

Yes in giving time frames clearer goals can be targeted and reached. Each time frame also allows for resetting of budgets to ensure the 15 year goal is reached.

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

See first note

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

Yes

Notes

Yes there needs to be some flexibility due to unpredictable changes in economy, science, technology, natural disasters

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

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

Livestock Farmers - to assist with reducing methane emissions, erosion, transition to sustainable land fertility practices, planting of waterways and wetlands and fencing vulnerable areas. Horticulture - assistance with moving away from huge monoculture and chemical practices which destroys biodiversity. Transport - transition to EVs

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

Yes as a democratic process it is essential that the Government is accountable to an Independent private commission.

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

Yes they should be highly regarded people with a variety of expertise such as in climate change and environmental science, business, engineering, social policy, Maori interests, and communication

Clause

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

Position

Yes

Notes

There are unknowns in the predictions around climate change so there needs to be flexibility around dealing with these.

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

with the impacts of climate change happening more frequently we need better plans and policies in dealing with these issues. Therefore we need more understanding of the science of these effects eg on our biodiversity, and human health to better deal with them.

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

This issue affects everyone and in some ways affects the already disadvantaged in communities more. It is therefore wise to share information and support

Clause

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

Notes

I have been a Forest and Bird member for 40 years and am an active supporter of Tawharanui Open Sanctuary. I love tramping and have recently tramped 300kms of the Te Araroa trail. I am involved in a very progressive local community garden. As a member of Transition Towns Pt Chevalier I am actively involved in activities with the group to support sustainable living practices. I also feel we as a wealthy country must address some of the excessive damage we have created to climate change that is affecting our Pacific Island neighbours who are suffering the most and have been minimal emitters. It is because of these interests and social concerns and my concern for the planet and for future generations that I fully support the Green Party in its aim to pass the Zero Carbon Act as proposed.