

Your submission to Zero Carbon Bill

Reference no: 2533

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

A target of zero emissions by 2050 recognizes the urgency, but allows enough time for adjustment.

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

A 2050 target allows sufficient time for adjustment.

Clause

3. How should New Zealand meet its targets?

Position

Domestic emissions reductions only (including from new forest planting)

Notes

Our emissions reductions should not be outsourced to others, they should be our own actual reductions.

Clause

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

Position

Yes

Notes

If the global scientific consensus points to more urgent action being required, then the date could be brought forward. Conversely, if it points to a less urgent situation, the date could be extended.

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

This proposal provides more certainty for business.

Clause

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

Position

Yes - each incoming Government should have the option to review the third budget in the sequence

Notes

Provided this change is based on sound climate science available at the time, and not based on pressure from 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

Yes

Notes

As per comment in 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

Climate science should be given due weight in all considerations. I would also like to see reference to relevant Sustainable Development Goals listed in this section.

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

Plans need to be achievable and measurable. Measurement must be of actual emissions, based on the best data that can be practically gathered and recorded.

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

It is important that this is an independent, non-partisan body, committed to assessing the scientific facts.

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

As per 11 above.

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

There should be at least two Commissioners who have a background in climate science and at least two commissioners who identify as Māori. There should also be equal gender representation.

Clause

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

Position

Yes

Notes

It needs to be comprehensive. We cannot plan for business as usual.

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

Adaptation should be mainstreamed right down to the household level. Government should invest in campaigns that generate behavioral change in the general population. Adaptation should not be left to the experts only. I agree that adaptation strategies should give special consideration to those most vulnerable.

Clause

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

Notes

I thank the NZ Government for putting this extremely important issue on the national agenda, and I hope this bill is passed without obstruction.

You have elected to withhold your personal details from publication.