

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

I support the target of reducing our own emissions to zero, and not using carbon credits.

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

Clause

3. How should New Zealand meet its targets?

Position

Domestic emissions reductions only (including from new forest planting)

Notes

Our domestic economy needs to change, and we need to take the long term view. Government needs to stop directly or indirectly subsidizing any activity that increases our emissions, as well as introducing measures to curb emissions (including the necessary incentives). In addition, NZ should assist and encourage other Countries to reduce their emissions.

Clause

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

Position

Yes

Notes

Yes, the targets should be revised if circumstances change, but NOT because of 'economic' circumstances. Any proposal for change should have approval from the Climate Commission and should be approved by Parliament.

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

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

I am saying No because it's important for all sectors of the economy to have certainty. Each new Government may introduce different policies for achieving those targets.

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

Only under exceptional circumstances, e.g. major natural disasters (if necessary).

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

It's important to have timely implementation of the Act: Policy plans should be put in place max. 6 months after an emission budget has been decided.

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

Policy plans should be: comprehensive, timely, fair (meaning ensuring that vulnerable communities are supported, including workers in industries that will suffer job losses, and that clear signals are given early in the process to enable businesses and communities to plan for the impact of planned policies, as well as for opportunities arising from such policies). Plans must also be cost-effective, environmentally sustainable (i.e.: take into account the health of the environment overall, not only of emissions) and must be respectful of Te Tiriti o Waitangi.

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**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**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

I would suggest the addition of someone with expertise in Public Health.

Clause

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

Position

Yes

Notes

And it's important that the Climate Change Commission advise on measures to be taken to assist with adaptation.

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**Clause**

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

Notes

I would like to see this Government encourage the governments of other Countries with which NZ has trading relationships, to which NZ provides any form of aid or with which NZ cooperates on other matters, to enact and implement a similar Zero Carbon Act.