



Submissions form

We seek your feedback on the specific proposals in the Zero Carbon Bill.

Either email this submission to ZCB.Submissions@mfe.govt.nz (Microsoft Word document (2003 or later) or PDF) or post to Ministry for the Environment, PO Box 10362, Wellington, 6143.

Publishing and releasing submissions

All or part of any written submission (including names of submitters) may be published on the Ministry for the Environment's website, www.mfe.govt.nz. Unless you clearly specify otherwise in your submission, the Ministry will consider that you have consented to website posting of both your submission and your name.

Contents of submissions may be released to the public under the Official Information Act 1982 following requests to the Ministry for the Environment (including via email). Please advise if you have any objection to the release of any information contained in a submission, including commercially sensitive information, and in particular which part(s) you consider should be withheld, together with the reason(s) for withholding the information. We will take into account all such objections when responding to requests for copies of, and information on, submissions to this document under the Official Information Act.

The Privacy Act 1993 applies certain principles about the collection, use and disclosure of information about individuals by various agencies, including the Ministry for the Environment. It governs access by individuals to information about themselves held by agencies. Any personal information you supply to the Ministry in the course of making a submission will be used by the Ministry only in relation to the matters covered by this document. Please clearly indicate in your submission if you do not wish your name to be included in any summary of submissions that the Ministry may publish.

Personal / organisation details

You must provide either a company name or given name(s)

Company name N/A

Given names Laurence John Robinson

Surname Burrows

Contact person _____

Address _____

Submitter type, pick one:

- Individual
- NGO
- Business / Industry
- Local Government
- Central Government
- Iwi / Māori
- University
- Research Institute
- School
- Community Group
- Unspecified / Other

2050 target

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

Pick one:

- the Government sets a 2050 target in legislation now
- 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.

Optional comment

I strongly support the passing of the Zero Carbon Bill. Climate change action has already waited far too long and we need to set an ambitious target now which we can stick to.

It's important to include methane and emissions from agriculture, because New Zealand's agriculture is not very sustainable and there is room for innovation and diversification with agricultural practices.

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

Pick one:

- net zero carbon dioxide:** Reducing net carbon dioxide emissions to zero by 2050
- net zero long-lived gases and stabilised short-lived gases:** Long-lived gases to net zero by 2050, while also stabilising short-lived gases
- net zero emissions:** Net zero emissions across all greenhouse gases by 2050.

Optional comment

We should set a net zero emissions target to cover climate change comprehensively.

3. How should New Zealand meet its targets?

Pick one:

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

Optional comment

It's important that we take action ourselves rather than paying other countries do take action on our behalf. This will support local innovation and provide incentives for New Zealand to invest in green technologies.

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

Pick one:

- yes
- no.

Optional comment

The science is clear on the emissions reductions required and allowing revision allows opens up loopholes that could be abused or create doubt that we will be reducing our emissions.

Emissions budgets

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

Pick one:

- yes
- no.

Optional comment

This is thorough planning and a good proposal. It is important to plan for a long-

term and short-term actions and review frequently.

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

Pick one:

- yes, each incoming Government should have the option to review the third budget in the sequence
- yes, the third emissions budget should be able to be changed, but only when the subsequent budget is set
- no, emissions budgets should not be able to be changed.

Optional comment

Budgets need to be legally enforceable to set a clear signal to the economy and society on what action is to be taken. I do not support the ability to alter budgets.

7. Should the Government have the ability to review and adjust the second emissions budget within a specific range under [exceptional circumstances](#)?

Pick one:

- yes
- no.

Optional comment

This is a global issue, and the action needed will not change due to any foreseeable exceptional circumstances.

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?

Pick one:

- yes
- no.

Optional comment

Yes, considering the Paris Agreement, the Science and New Zealand's economic needs is a sensible way of making decisions.

We need to aim to limit climate change to 1.5 degrees celsius. Even warming of 2 degrees celsius would have unacceptable impacts on Pacific Islands states

neighbouring New Zealand and cause large scale extinction of species.

The Paris agreement is a particularly important consideration as there could be a compound positive effect if New Zealand is a good international citizen and particularly diligent about achieving its Paris commitments.

Government response

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

Pick one:

yes

no.

Optional comment

There need to be stringent planning requirements to ensure governments take enough action.

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?

Comment

Government needs to work firstly with scientists and the community, then afterwards with businesses and large emitters to help them understand how to act.

Climate Change Commission

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?

Pick one:

yes

no.

Optional comment

I support the design of the Climate Change Commission, particularly the way in which it can separate climate change policy from short-term political pressure.

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

Pick one:

- advising the Government on policy settings in the NZ ETS
- makes decisions itself, in respect of the number of units available in the NZ ETS.

Optional comment

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?

Pick one:

- yes
- no.

Optional comment

Adapting to the impacts of climate change

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

Pick one:

- yes
- no

Optional comment

Adaptation to climate change will be important for everyone but particularly for those living in poverty. Even with all reasonable action on climate change, there will still be large impacts for us to adapt to and critical areas of research on climate change adaptation.

15. The Government has proposed a number of new [functions](#) to help us adapt to climate change. Do you agree with the proposed functions?

Pick one:

- yes
- no.



Optional comment

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?

Pick one:

yes

no.

Optional comment

Yes, this is very important. Currently organisations are mostly only reporting information about financial profitability. Requiring them to report on climate change risks would promote transparency and corporate social responsibility.