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| Name | Tim Tovey |
| Email | |
| A Zero Carbon Act is important to me because... | <p>Well firstly I want to say thank you to whoever is reading this - thank you for taking the time to read and consider our thoughts! I see climate change as possibly the BIGGEST issue that we face as human kind - and at the rate we are going as a nation (and across the world as a whole) WE ARE IN SERIOUS TROUBLE! We are already experiencing the negative effects of Climate Change (more extreme weather events, species extinction and sea level rise) and it's only going to get worse.</p> <p>As a species, human kind MUST curb our consumption of fossil fuels and rein in our excessive carbon emissions OR WE WILL FACE SERIOUS CONSEQUENCES!!!</p> <p>And I believe that it needs to come through Central Government legislation, because humans generally don't change unless they are forced to. The Government needs to implement the Zero Carbon Act to give us a way forward as people, to stop relying on fossil fuels and transition in to a sustainable future - and we MUST ACT NOW!!!</p> |
| Q1. What process should the Government use to set a new emissions reduction target in legislation? | I PASSIONATELY BELIEVE that the NZ Government should implement the Zero Carbon Bill, which requires that we as a country reach NET ZERO carbon emissions by 2050. |
| Q2. If the Government sets a 2050 target now, which is the best target for New Zealand? | I STRONGLY AGREE with Generation Zero, that we should set the most ambitious target: reducing total greenhouse gases to net zero by 2050. I DEFINITELY support taking a science-based approach to ensure our efforts to reduce emissions are as impactful as possible: we should aim for negative levels of long-lived gases, while reducing short-lived gases to sustainable levels. |
| Q3. How should New Zealand meet its targets? | I think the best way NZ can meet its targets is by using domestic emissions reductions only (including from new forest planting). |
| Q4. Should the Zero Carbon Bill allow the 2050 target to be revised if circumstances change? | I believe that the 2050 target should not be altered in response to "economic changes" as this undermines its long-term certainty. However, the ability to revise the 2050 target in light of major changes in scientific understanding or international agreements should be permitted. |
| Q5. 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? | YES! I agree with 5-year budgets set 10-15 years in advance, so that 3 are in effect at all times. |
| Q6 - Q7. Should the Government be able to alter emissions budgets? | Definitely not! I believe that emissions budgets should not be altered in response to "economic changes" as this undermines their long-term certainty. However, the ability to revise budgets in light of major changes in scientific understanding or international agreements should be permitted. |

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| <p>Q8. Do you agree with the proposed considerations that the Government and the Climate Commission will need to take into account when advising on and setting budgets?</p> | <p>I STRONGLY agree that the Government and the Climate Commission should take the following factors into consideration when advising on and setting budgets:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • scientific knowledge regarding climate change • technology relevant to climate change • economic circumstances and the likely impact of a decision on the economy, as well as the competitiveness of particular sectors of the economy • fiscal circumstances and the likely impact of the decision on taxation, public spending and public borrowing • social circumstances and the likely impact of a decision on fuel poverty • energy policy and the likely impact of a decision on energy supplies and the carbon and energy intensity of the economy. |
| <p>Q9. Should the Zero Carbon Bill require Governments to set out plans within a certain timeframe to achieve the emissions budgets?</p> | <p>ABSOLUTELY! I agree we must learn from the mistakes of the UK's Climate Change Act and specify a strict time frame for producing a plan.</p> |
| <p>Q10. 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?</p> | <p>The Govt. should prioritise the most vulnerable of our society and those who will be affected by the changes that Climate Change will make in their lives (climate refugees and dislocation as a result of sea level rise; job loss etc.)</p> <p>The Government's policy plans to meet emission budgets should be comprehensive, fair, cost-effective, environmentally sustainable, and reflect a commitment to Te Tiriti o Waitangi.</p> |
| <p>Q11. 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?</p> | <p>Yes I agree, I think the Commission should advise on and monitor NZ's progress, but not be a decision-making body.</p> |
| <p>Q12. What role do you think the Climate Change Commission should have in relation to the New Zealand Emissions Trading Scheme (NZ ETS)?</p> | <p>I think that the Commission should advise the Government on policy settings in the NZ ETS. It should not make decisions itself with respect to the number of units available in the NZ ETS, or its implementation.</p> |
| <p>Q13. 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?</p> | <p>I think all of these points are excellent suggestions and the Govt. should take them seriously!</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • climate change policy (including emissions trading) • resource economics and impacts (including social impacts, labour markets and distribution) • te Tiriti o Waitangi, te reo me ona tikanga Māori and Māori interests • climate and environmental science including mātauranga Māori • experience with addressing adaptation challenges like planning, insurance and local government • risk management • engineering and/or infrastructure • community engagement and communications. • business competitiveness • knowledge of the public and private innovation and technology development system. <p>I think expertise in public health is also important.</p> |
| <p>Q14. Do you think the Zero Carbon Bill should cover adapting to climate change?</p> | <p>Yes! We must! I think this may require a separate adaptation sub-committee within the Climate Commission.</p> |

Q15. The Government has proposed a number of new functions to help us adapt to climate change. Do you agree with the proposed functions?

I DO agree with the proposed functions below, but I also recognise that nuance is required in terms of how local councils are involved:

- a national climate change risk assessment
- a national adaptation plan
- regular review of progress towards implementing the national adaptation plan
- an adaptation reporting power

Q16. Should the Government explore setting up a targeted adaptation reporting power that could see some organisations share information on their exposure to climate change risks?

Yes, I think we should explore this option.

Further comments

I just want to add that I really believe this is an issue of UTMOST importance and it is CRUCIAL we act on it NOW, and I STRONGLY believe that the Zero Carbon Bill is the best way forward for NZ. Thank you for listening to our submissions and taking them seriously!