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

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

Clause 4. Should the Zero Carbon Bill allow the 2050 target to be revised if circumstances change?
Position
Yes
Notes
May have to tighten them with new knowledge but shouldn't be reduced

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
Yes - each incoming Government should have the option to review the third budget in the sequence
Notes
But only if the change is to tighten the budget in order to reduce emissions further & more rapidly

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
No
Notes

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
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
Central govt needs to work closely with local govt. We need to consider how we support our Pacific neighbours who may well suffer the first consequences of climate change and become climate refugees.

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
To be advisory with mechanisms for holding govt, to account.

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
I like Commissions to retain the standard practice of offering advice to government. Very important that agriculture is included in ETS soon.

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
Very happy particularly if the advice of the PCE is listened to.

Clause
14. Do you think the Zero Carbon Bill should cover adapting to climate change?
Position
No
Notes
Adaptation is a separate issue to this bill which is about setting targets for carbon reduction, with the aim of mitigating some aspects of climate change. Not really sure that this needs to be in this legislation.

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
Notes
Functions that enhance collaboration and an integrated approach is important.

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
Yes, this would be a useful integrated & collaborative approach