

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 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

Notes

Clause

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

Position

Net Zero Carbon Dioxide - Reducing net carbon dioxide emissions to zero by 2050

Notes

Clause

3. How should New Zealand meet its targets?

Position

Domestic emissions reductions only (including from new forest planting)

Notes

The ETS and carbon unit system seems to me to have been dreamed up by some financial wizard in order to make money. This should not be the foundation of a country making an honest attempt to address its emissions.

Clause

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

Position

Yes

Notes

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)?

Notes

Why would it be tied to a change of Government? It shouldn't be political but should be based on facts, how we are progressing, what is needed to reach the third budget and the effect on the country of doing so. These things should drive any amendments to the budgets, not an incoming government. Therefore review periods should be set.

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

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?

Notes

Depends how flexible it is. We don't want to be locked into a suicide mission.

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

The practicalities, cost and impact on those affected, of actioning any plans.

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)?

Notes

The ETS is flawed and has resulted in the opposite of what was intended. It was set up for financial gain and this should not be the motivation for addressing greenhouse gases. There should be honest accounting with every person and industry dealing with their own effects. An ETS shouldn't be required to achieve this.

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

No

Notes

There also needs to be practical knowledge of the most affected industries. Not industry representation as such, but people around the table who can relate discussions to the actual practicalities.

Clause

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

Position

No

Notes

Adapting to climate change is a whole other kettle of fish.

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

No

Notes

Deal with it separately because it will be happening at a different pace than emissions, and no-one knows what that pace is going to be.

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

No

Notes

Deal with it separately. TA's in the first instance need to be working consistently on the effects of climate change and the issues are similar around the country so government needs to show leadership.

Clause

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

Notes

To me it seems that to date the accounting system, including the ETS, has been broken. Emissions in a biological cycle should not be included. Forestry is not the fix all that government seems to think, it has many negative effects as well. If the accounting is done properly I suspect that NZ's emissions in the world scheme of things are miniscule. There is a lot of other pollution here that should be dealt to, look at all the garbage that stores like The Warehouse, and the other "cheap crap" stores which are popping up everywhere are bringing into the country all of which will ultimately end up in the landfill. Why don't you do something about that? And reducing packaging - the gains that we make by bringing our re-usable bags to the supermarket are all lost by the likes of Pams putting half a dozen tomatoes in a plastic container. And when you buy something the size of a matchbox on line, and it comes in a whole lot of packaging? Why don't you do something about that? I think we will be buried in our own rubbish long before we run out of oxygen or get frazzled by the sun.