

# Your submission to Zero Carbon Bill

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## Reference no: 9168

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

We need to act strongly now to aim for the best possible outcome, it already may be too late by 2050.

### Clause

3. How should New Zealand meet its targets?

### Notes

The government should consult widely with the best scientific knowledge available and with iwi and communities. We should go with the actions that will give the best emission reductions, learning from overseas expertise and local knowledge.

### Clause

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

### Position

Yes

### Notes

The target may need to be earlier than 2050, depending on what research shows us and if resources to do this make it possible.

### 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 - the third emissions budget should be able to be changed but only when the subsequent budget is set

### Notes

But ONLY if it doesn't slow the process of reducing emissions.

### 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

Yes

**Notes**

Yes, but there need to be weightings so that the environmental impact is given most weight.

**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**

The needs of communities who may be adversely affected economically by plans to meet budgets must be considered. Taxes may need to be increased to provided new economic ventures for these communities. The low paid should not have to bear the burden of change.

**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

**Notes**

There need to be safeguards to ensure the Commission has teeth - if it is purely advisory it could be ignored by future governments if it's advice is seen as too hard.

**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****Clause**

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

**Position**

Yes

**Notes****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 have lived beside the Makara river in Wellington, less than 1km from the coast for the last 20 years. Over the last ten years, flooding and storms have become more frequent. Or community is at risk of disappearing completely if we do not slow climate change. As a middle-low income family, our home is our only asset, and our children's heritage. But more importantly, I want my children and their future children to be able to grow up in a safe environment, which will almost definitely not be possible unless we take very clear and brave actions to slow the current climate change. New Zealand is in an ideal situation to take a global lead on this matter, we can't afford not to.