

Your submission to Zero Carbon Bill

Reference no: 9393

Submitter Type: NGO

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 Long-Lived Gases and Stabilised Short-Lived Gases - Long-lived gases to net zero by 2050 while also stabilising short-lived gases

Notes

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3. How should New Zealand meet its targets?

Position

Domestic emissions reductions only (including from new forest planting)

Notes

soil carbon sequestration needs to be considered, along with new planting... <http://climatestate.com/2018/07/12/capturing-carbon-with-soils/>

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

Refresh on govt support for research on biochar & soil carbon sequestration: <http://climatestate.com/2018/07/12/capturing-carbon-with-soils/>

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

Notes

NZ interest in biochar bloomed early in 2009 when the government funded 'NZ Biochar Research Centre' at Massey University began its work. Worldwide interest in biochar has grown almost exponentially over the last 15 years, as reflected in the growth in published literature on the subject and reports on international industry growth. NZ interest and activity associated with biochar has not kept pace with this international action. We now see a strong NZ resurgence in community interest and business activity in biochar. This interest and activity is currently localised, informal, poorly coordinated and unfunded. Biochar offers opportunities for multiple and cascading environmental benefits... all leading to carbon sequestration. Many biomass sources are available (wilding pine, coppice crops, forest/crop residues) along with co-product opportunities (heat, pyrolygneous acids, etc) for small industry. Positive impacts on agriculture practices, water quality and nutrient management will also flow from biochar production and applications. The NZ government appears to be poorly informed on the interest and opportunities related to the resurgence of biochar activity.

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