

# Your submission to Zero Carbon Bill

**Reference no:** 9415

**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**

The consultation document heavily minimises the impact that methane has on the atmosphere. While methane does indeed “decay relatively rapidly in the atmosphere”, it has a severe impact over a short period of time. In 2013, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change reported that methane has a global warming potential of 34 over a 100-year time period, and 86 over a 20-year time period, having a significantly higher impact on the atmosphere than carbon dioxide. Excluding or making concessions for emitters of methane in the short term will not be beneficial to New Zealand over the longer term.

**Clause**

3. How should New Zealand meet its targets?

**Position**

Domestic emissions reductions (including from new forest planting) and using some emissions reductions from overseas (international carbon units) that have strong environmental safeguards

**Notes**

**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)?

**Position**

Yes - each incoming Government should have the option to review the third budget in the sequence

**Notes**

**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?

**Position**

Yes

**Notes****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)?

**Position**

Advising the Government on policy settings in the NZ ETS

**Notes****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**

Resilience and adaption should be the issue of most importance, given that the "costs of climate change are already high and growing". Planning ahead and taking proactive adaptive action to reduce the impacts of climate change will reduce costs over the long term. Particular regard should be given to coastal communities impacted by sea level rise, and increasing the security of water used for human consumption.

**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**

**You have elected to withhold your personal details from publication.**