

## Submission on Zero Carbon Bill

### Personal / organisation details

*You must provide either a company name or given name(s)*

Company name \_\_\_\_\_

Given names **Ian** \_\_\_\_\_

Surname **Armstrong** \_\_\_\_\_

Contact person **Ian Armstrong** \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

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Submitter type, pick one:

- Individual **X**
- NGO
- Business / Industry
- Local Government
- Central Government
- Iwi / Māori
- University
- Research Institute
- School
- Community Group
- Unspecified / Other

I am a dairy farmer from South Taranaki.

I support Government striving for zero net carbon emissions by 2050.

I accept that carbon emissions from agriculture make up more than 50% of total emissions for New Zealand and that methane from ruminant livestock has far greater adverse effects than carbon dioxide, albeit with a relatively short life as methane. However I have seen no evidence to suggest what NET carbon emissions from agriculture are, expressed in carbon dioxide equivalents. I believe more work should be done in this area so we fully understand the affects from agriculture.

I agree that serious efforts need to continue to be applied to reduce methane production from livestock.

I also agree that efforts need to be applied to provide carbon sinks such as forestry. However large areas of forestry reach a carbon sink balance in a relatively short time. For example, pinus radiata reaches maturity in about 30 years and at that stage little more carbon sequestration will occur. In spite of this I believe that as a carbon sink, forestry is important. In this respect as a Taranaki farmer over the last 15 years I have fenced and planted in excess of 25 kilometres of riparian planting covering in excess of 7 hectares and have retired and protected another 5 hectares of native bush, which has regenerated significantly. Neither of these areas is recognized as assisting in forming carbon credits, which seems to me to be unjust.

Ian Armstrong