

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 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 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 (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

If it becomes apparent that the target set is insufficient to mitigate serious impacts of climate change then it needs to be revised so that it is more ambitious. However, if the climate crisis turns out to not be as severe as expected I don't see any reason to revise the target. The target should resist in the introduction of more sustainable, just practises which make for better living conditions across the board.

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

Yes, but only for a stricter target, the emissions budget should not be able to be increased.

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

'Exceptional' meaning that they need to be stricter targets.

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**

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

Climate change is one of the biggest challenges facing people in poverty here and in developing countries, the government needs to include these people in the decision making process - making sure that their involvement is accessible. Further afield, we cannot hide behind the excuse that Climate Change is a global problem, which cannot be tackled by countries in isolation, and that New Zealand is just one small country. We must demonstrate global leadership and use our international relations to pressure other countries abroad to follow suit. The government needs to acknowledge that our farming culture has to shift. We have to make some compromises and not everyone will be pleased with it. The government must ensure that the Zero Carbon Bill is transparent. This means the bill must include a requirement to produce annual reports about New Zealand's international climate change contributions in order to ensure that the Pacific countries get the support they need and can plan to adapt to their changing environment. This will promote public engagement and political accountability. New Zealanders will be able to understand the international contributions we are making and as a nation, we will be able to stand tall that we are supporting our Pacific neighbours adapt to their climate change reality.

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

Makes decisions itself in respect of the number of units available 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

No matter what emissions reductions we achieve our society will be subject to consequences of some degree of climate change. We will need to adapt to that.

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

1. Climate change is one of the biggest challenges facing people in poverty here and in developing countries. We can't ignore the impact climate change is having on our neighbours in the Pacific and across the developing world. 2. Climate Change is a global problem - it cannot be tackled by countries in isolation. New Zealand must demonstrate global leadership and match its bold domestic emissions reduction agenda: by having an equally ambitious climate change strategy abroad. 3. Access to climate finance is a matter of climate justice - those who have contributed least to the causes of climate change are typically the most vulnerable to its impacts and have the least resources to respond. 4. We must take responsibility for our global emissions and the climate impacts that we have contributed to. It's very important that all New Zealanders have their say on how we make the shift to a zero carbon future here in New Zealand but we must also help the world's most vulnerable communities across the Pacific adjust to the impacts on climate change. 5. We must ensure that the Zero Carbon Bill is transparent. This means the bill must include a requirement to produce annual reports about New Zealand's international climate change contributions in order to ensure that the Pacific countries get the support they need and can plan to adapt to their changing environment. 6. Transparency in the Bill will promote public engagement and political accountability. New Zealanders will be able to understand the international contributions we are making and as a nation, we will be able to stand tall that we are supporting our Pacific neighbours adapt to their climate change reality. 7. It is time for New Zealand to lead again. We have a history of global leadership: we were the first country to give women the vote and the first to become nuclear free. It is time to take another giant step towards climate justice globally. 8. New Zealand has demonstrated global leadership with our commitment to stopping oil and gas exploration - now let us continue that moral leadership and include transparency in what and how we support climate change efforts abroad. 9. Demand that the Zero Carbon Bill supports the most vulnerable people in the Pacific!