

Your submission to Zero Carbon Bill

mark, Gold'n Pear (Mark Fort)

Reference no: 10571

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

Clause

3. How should New Zealand meet its targets?

Position

Domestic emissions reductions only (including from new forest planting)

Notes

Clause

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

Position

Yes

Notes

The Bill should include a clause requiring amendment to be subject to a 75% majority so that there is cross-party adherence and cannot be easily repealed or amended by a subsequent government.

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

I support emissions budgets but do not agree they should align with electoral cycles as this would encourage politicisation. Climate change is too important to be subject to political argument and would defeat the purpose of having a target set in legislation. The three, 5 yearly cycle as proposed is supported. We consider a review in 2030 is appropriate, as set out above.

Clause

6. Should the Government be able to alter the last emissions budget (i.e. furthest into the future)?

Position

No - emissions budgets should not be able to be changed

Notes

We support emissions budgets but do not agree they should align with electoral cycles as this would encourage politicisation. Climate change is too important to be subject to political argument and would defeat the purpose of having a target set in legislation. The three, 5 yearly cycle as proposed is supported. We consider a review in 2030 is appropriate, as set out above.

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

None of the proposed options are supported. I support a review in 2030 or if requested by the Climate Commission or by

international agreements.

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

Impacts on other environmental values eg freshwater quality and native habitats should be a key factor.

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

Scientific evidence, how to positively involve businesses and industry including evidence of what has been achieved, mechanisms to smooth out the effects on the socially and economically disadvantaged, flow on effects on other aspects of the environment (e.g. on freshwater and natural habitats), how to best implement changes to local government policies and rules e.g. a national policy statement containing provisions to amend planning documents directly.

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

I ask that the Commission is appointed by the Parliamentary Commissioner for the Environment rather than a Minister or Cabinet. It should be mandatory for the Government to respond to the Commissions' advice within 3 months of receiving it including publishing reasons for any advice not being accepted.

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

Advising the Government on policy settings in the NZ ETS and monitoring the implementation of the ETS, recommending changes where necessary.

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

Yes but the expert in resource impacts and/or environmental scientist should have expertise to assess impacts on freshwater and other native habitats.

Clause

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

Position

Yes

Notes

But not if it means any delay in implementing the major part of the Bill.

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 want to see a huge growth in the use of both wind and solar power included in building projects especially state apartment blocks where joint use of hot water services can be achieved. (Cooperative systems) Electrical energy loses approx 30% of its total when being distributed so we should have short line systems as with solar