

Your submission to Zero Carbon Bill

Reference no: 10762

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

The Government should work with the opposition to legislate a consensus position now.

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

New Zealand should plan to meet its emission targets solely from domestic sources. By this means the process can be monitored and controlled more effectively and perhaps at lower cost.

Clause

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

Position

Yes

Notes

Only if the understanding of the science of climate change undergoes a shift whereas the need for action to reduce emission is shown to be less urgent than is now the case.

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

But only under the circumstances as outlined in the comments on question 4

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

But only under the circumstances as outlined in the comments on question 4

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

But only under the circumstances as outlined in the comments on question 4

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

No

Notes

There should be a cost associated with all emissions regardless of the impact on particular sectors of the economy. In other words, all emissions should be treated equally.

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

All emissions should be included in the emissions trading scheme and the number of permits reduced over a set period of time.

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

The scheme needs to be agnostic towards all industries or it will become hostage to the lobbying of interest groups.

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

No

Notes

The climate change commission decisions should be binding and independent of government interference. The commissioners should be appointed by the government and have fixed terms of 3-5 years.

Clause

12. What role do you think the Climate Change Commission should have in relation to the New Zealand Emissions Trading Scheme (NZ ETS)?

Notes

The CCC should be responsible for ensuring that targets are met and have the power to ensure they are.

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

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

Please note that although I am not currently resident in NZ I am a New Zealander and am making this submission for that reason. I think NZ and every other country in the world should plan to reduce their emissions without constantly benchmarking that against what everyone else is doing. Although NZ is only a tiny part of the problem of climate change NZ has an opportunity and a responsibility as a relatively wealthy country to set an example for the rest of the world.

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