

Your submission to Zero Carbon Bill

Reference no: 10767

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

I favour setting the 2050 goal now for the purposes of accountability. The goal may force the governments hands on necessary action where it may not have but for the goal.

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

Per the Ministry for the Environment, agriculture GHG emissions make up 49.2% of our total, and carbon is not the main issue there. Any targets that exclude the main GHG emissions from agriculture would be avoiding a significant part of the issue as unfortunately industry that has prominent release of short-lived gases are common in New Zealand. For any legislation to be effective, it needs to cover all of the issue green house gases.

Clause

3. How should New Zealand meet its targets?

Position

Domestic emissions reductions only (including from new forest planting)

Notes

By restricting it to domestic emissions reductions, we can ensure that New Zealand is actually making a difference on the world scale.

Clause

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

Position

Yes

Notes

It would be bold to assume that we can predict all of the challenges that New Zealand will face with climate change, and the potential for revision if necessary is important. However the accountability referred to in question one is also important. I still fall on the side of being strict, however a means or revision in exceptional circumstances would be useful. This should only be used with thorough consideration from the climate commission to prevent parties that may be less willing to do what is necessary for the environment from abusing it. Should circumstances worsen however and action be necessary in a shorter time frame, this revision method should not be a means for stopping New Zealand from adjusting to more ambitious targets.

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

No - emissions budgets should not be able to be changed

Notes

Like question four, only if completely necessary or if targets need to become more ambitious.

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

Notes

See question 6.

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

Yes, specifically in terms of accountability. Should political parties change, this will become of upmost importance.

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

Yes, this will be important should NZ's efforts not be enough on a global scale. This should be informed by the climate commission, given the expertise outlined.

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.