

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 Long-Lived Gases and Stabilised Short-Lived Gases - Long-lived gases to net zero by 2050 while also stabilising short-lived gases

Notes

This is the obvious position for New Zealand to adopt. It is in keeping with our Paris Accord undertakings and prioritises work on the most important long lived gases. It gives us a little more time to deal with the difficult issue of enteric methane. The accounting principles for enteric methane are still somewhat debatable and the mitigation options are limited. It would be reckless for NZ to adopt a policy of net zero emissions of methane by 2050 given the importance of pastoral farming to our economy. No overseas jurisdictions seem likely to follow suit meaning there would be significant emissions leakage to off-shore sources.

Clause

3. How should New Zealand meet its targets?

Position

Domestic emissions reductions only (including from new forest planting)

Notes

The international carbon units have obviously been a rort. It is hard too see this changing the future. It is better to be honest with our own efforts (even if they are on the modest side) than rely on offshore carbon credits of dubious quality.

Clause

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

Position

No

Notes

Future Parliaments are free to do whatever they choose. Make the 2050 target 'hard'. If a future government wants to change that target let them do it by legislation.

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

As for 4 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

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

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

No

Notes

This is a separate issue. Adaptation will likely be required more at a regional and district level.