

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 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

Our economy should be geared to meet desired outcomes. If we take the housing crisis as an example, we can set up incentives to reach desired outcomes. If rocketing house prices was the goal, it has worked. If increasing CO2 absorption, or cutting emissions is the goal, we can make that work too, we just need to change the current model. We should aim at being the ones selling carbon credits, not buying them. We used to send plastic to China for them to deal with our mess, and that has worked out badly for us, and buying carbon credits would also be at risk of turning out badly for us.

Clause

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

Position

No

Notes

Incentives and circumstances should be changed to reach the goal.

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

It is always too easy to change the budget to suit what is easy now. The only acceptable outcome would be to make the budget more stringent in eliminating emissions and emission capture. Experience tells us that this will be highly unlikely.

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

There can always be exceptional circumstances that change things. War, natural disasters and climate tipping points would be examples. eg, war on our own shores or nearby, volcanic activity in Auckland or major earthquakes in Wellington, sudden catastrophic collapse of a major ice shelf like Greenland.

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

All industry have developed under the models and rules of the past. The rules need to change. The cost of transitioning to meeting the new rules needs to be acceptable by the business making the transition. Subsidies on technology and developing technology, or tax incentives. The tax free nature of the housing market has worked to increase house and land prices at an exceptional rate. That method should be applied to the emissions situation.

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

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

It's time for action. This can be used to create a major social change making living and working in New Zealand more fair for everyone. The current model has increased the gap between the rich minority and the growing poor majority, and all this at the expense of the environment and the planet. That ridiculous situation can be stopped now.