

Your submission to Zero Carbon Bill

Reference no: 11235

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

It is important that New Zealand sets the most ambitious target possible. Net Zero emissions is ambitious, but it is also entirely achievable. In order to meet the goal of less than 2 degrees of warming, it is important that all nations try to get as close to net zero emissions as soon as possible.

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

No

Notes

"Escape clauses" should not be written into the Act. There needs to be a firm commitment from the Government on these issues, and sectors need to have clarity on what the expectations are.

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

Yes - the third emissions budget should be able to be changed but only when the subsequent budget is set

Notes

Ideally, the proposals will have cross-party support, so that the targets are honoured, and there can be certainty for the sectors that the targets affect.

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

This should only be under exceptional circumstances, such as after a natural disaster, where leaving the budget the same would cause considerable harm to a significant portion of society which could not be mitigated in any other way.

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

There should be significant consideration made to the impact on society, particularly those in lower socioeconomic circumstances. It is important that none of the proposed changes have a negative impact on any portion of society in particular. Te Tiriti o Waitangi should also be a consideration.

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

It is important that the Government sets out plans, and that these plans are visible and accessible to everyone. There should be timeframes, to ensure that Government is held accountable.

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 Government needs to ensure that representatives from all walks of life are able to be heard on setting plans to meet budgets. While this means industry and sectors, it is also important that there is targeted of young people (in particular, given that they will be most affected by these changes in the future), Maori and Pacific Islanders, people in lower socioeconomic areas, and immigrants and refugees. It is also important to get some cross-party support, so that the targets remain in place if there is a change in Government in the near future.

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

The Commission should have relevant experts available to advise the Government on the best approach to the ETS.

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

The Climate Commission should also include representation from rangatahi- these are the leaders of the future, and need to be involved in decisions and advice to the Government.

Clause

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

Position

Yes

Notes

Adaptation is going to be necessary, no matter how quickly we take action on climate issues. However, it is very important that the main focus of the Act is on mitigation, and reducing carbon emissions as much and as quickly as possible.

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.