

Your submission to Zero Carbon Bill

Violet Virginia Chong

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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

We don't have time to wait until later.

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 the most ambitious target but it means that if we fail to completely meet it we may end up at least surpassing either of the other two.

Clause

3. How should New Zealand meet its targets?

Position

Domestic emissions reductions only (including from new forest planting)

Notes

We should aim to be selling emissions reductions to other countries, not buying them.

Clause

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

Position

Yes

Notes

But only under extreme circumstances, so that we don't lose sight of the main goal when it starts to hurt.

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 - each incoming Government should have the option to review the third budget in the sequence

Notes

Once we get started it's going to hurt many of us economically and we will probably all want to make a u-turn because it seems too hard. But governments should only be able to review the budget if circumstances are extreme. Otherwise progress might come to a halt

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

because extreme circumstances are going to increase in frequency.

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

Climate changes scientists need to be at the forefront as they are the ones who can advise how we are doing and how we can do better. Also need to ensure that our tenancy, consumer and employment rights are not curtailed if businesses and Govt feel the need to cut expenditure in order to absorb increased costs related to reducing emissions.

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

Needs to be able to hold the government to account, and the emitters as well.

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

How well we adapt to climate change will affect our ability and motivation to progress toward our 2050 target, and vice versa.

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

Agree with proposal to increase forestation. We want to be able to contribute to this as individuals and communities too, but how will the trees we plant be counted towards the 1 billion? There is an issue with the cost of EVs. It is the wealthier households who can afford EVs since there are few that are secondhand. Why not ban the import of petrol and diesel cars? We'd have to make exceptions for vehicles which don't have an EV substitute. All public transport should be electric. Wellington City Council replaced all of the trolley buses with mostly diesel buses, so we need more support for providers of public transport to switch to electric rather than the other kind. Also public transport has to be able to cope with a growing population of elderly, who don't have the physical ability to walk or cycle long distances.