

# Your submission to Zero Carbon Bill

## Reference no: 11909

**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 goal to reach net zero emissions by the second half of the century and the Climate Change Commission advises on the specific target for the Government to set later

### Notes

Specific targets set by the commission should have the force of law and not be able to be altered by the government of the day.

### 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

I understand the rationale behind only stabilising methane, but it is crucial they are stabilised at a low level. If we are to make the 2050 target, it is actually more important we cut the most egregious gases hard and fast soon, rather than trying to play catch up in 2040. Reducing CO2 emissions from transport etc, while difficult, already has clear methods that could be used. Therefore we should focus strongly on attempting to stabilise methane, but at a lower level. If we only stabilise it at current levels, then while it only remains for a relatively short time in the atmosphere, we will be keeping a more dangerous gas around in perpetuity because as it decays it will be replaced by new emissions.

### Clause

3. How should New Zealand meet its targets?

### Position

Domestic emissions reductions (including from new forest planting) and using some emissions reductions from overseas (international carbon units) that have strong environmental safeguards

### Notes

"That have strong environmental safeguards" is absolutely key, and the majority of reductions should come from domestic efforts, e.g. 75% domestic reductions minimum.

### Clause

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

### Position

No

### Notes

This is a crisis. There is no wriggle room.

### 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

Only the commission should be involved in setting targets.

### 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**

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**

No

**Notes**

Only the first two and last points are in my view valid. Fiscal concerns, impacts on the economy social circumstances can be too easily used as excuses for inaction. This should be driven by the what teh science says we need to do to reach carbon zero.

**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**

Yes, however it is also important that there are some lay people on the commission.

**Clause**

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

**Position**

No

**Notes**

I think this can be done by another body and/or government and councils,

**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.**