

Your submission to Zero Carbon Bill

Reference no: 12011

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

We need a target set in legislation

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

I support the most ambitious target of reducing total greenhouse gases to net zero by 2050. I agree that the evidence for methane is unclear and it may be most appropriate to reduce these to sustainable levels but I would like our aim to reflect the importance of this issue

Clause

3. How should New Zealand meet its targets?

Position

Domestic emissions reductions only (including from new forest planting)

Notes

This should be done by reducing our own emissions and not relying on international carbon credits. I have concerns about the validity of the international carbon credit process and we need to focus on our own issues first. We also need to look at reducing our gross emissions and not just the net.

Clause

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

Position

Yes

Notes

Obviously there are two possibilities - increasing or reducing targets. I would not be keen on reducing them but I think allowing for changes is important

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

Yes, and we need to strengthen our 2030 Paris Agreement targets

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

I think a 15 year time frame does have some built in flexibility.

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

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

Definitely. They need to be clear leaders in this respect

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

Plans should be comprehensive, fair, environmentally sustainable and include a commitment to the principles of Te Tiriti o Waitangi

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

They should provide scientific advice and monitor progress.

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 government needs to be responsible overall for decisions

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

In addition public health should be represented. Climate change is a significant public health issue

Clause

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

Position

Yes

Notes

Yes - I think we are seeing the regular consequences of climate change (floods etc) and this needs to be addressed in legislation.

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

involvement of local government is also key in this process.

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

This needs to be explored in detail

Clause

Do you have any other comments you'd like to make?

Notes

Climate change is a real significant problem that we are all grappling with. Clear leadership and specific targets will be hugely important

You have elected to withhold your personal details from publication.