

Your submission to Zero Carbon Bill

Reference no: 12165

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

Clause

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

Position

Yes

Notes

But only in response to hard scientific consensus and recommendations from committees of experts. It should be easy to change in the direction of further reducing emissions (i.e. making the target sooner), but difficult to change in the opposite direction (i.e. making the target date later).

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

But again, only in response to hard scientific consensus and recommendations from committees of experts. It should be easy to change in the direction of further reducing emissions (i.e. making the target sooner/reducing emissions further), but difficult to change in the opposite direction (i.e. making the target date later/allowing for more emissions).

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

But again, only in response to hard scientific consensus and recommendations from committees of experts. It should be easy to change in the direction of further reducing emissions (i.e. making the target sooner/reducing emissions further), but difficult to change in the opposite direction (i.e. making the target date later/allowing for more emissions).

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

Need to work with an array scientific experts in the field to determine: what are appropriate and achievable budgets to set; novel ways to meet budgets; most efficient and sustainable ways to meet budgets; other issues/considerations which may arise Should also integrate this with advice from sustainable economic experts on efficient investment of government resources and technology industries to gather ideas on how budgets might be met in the best and most sustainable ways

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

Should be advisory, but should have specific mechanisms in place to hold the government to account and keep the public informed

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

But again, with strong mechanisms in place to hold the government to account and keep the public informed

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

Climate change is one of the most serious threats facing our future generations of kiwis. Laws to ameliorate and adapt to the effects of climate change should be expertly-informed, set concrete goals, and hold government of the day to account. Failing to do so is to fail the future of our country and the individuals who will have to reside here.

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