

Your submission to Zero Carbon Bill

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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 Long-Lived Gases and Stabilised Short-Lived Gases - Long-lived gases to net zero by 2050 while also stabilising short-lived gases

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

No

Notes

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

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

Often times Environmental and Climate Change policy is neglected among major political parties due to the benefits of the policy only taking effect in the distant future. Governing bodies should optimistically plan to achieve the 2050 goal by implementing short term goals in which the benefits are foreseeable within a given election cycle(s).

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

Policy and planning needs to be holistic. All ministries and departments need to develop the common interest to introduce policy to combat climate change.

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

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

Notes

There is a clear divide between how the environment should be valued between New Zealanders. This is reflected in the varying attitudes that individual MPs and Ministers have towards specific Environmental and Climate Change policies. In order to successfully reach the goal of being carbon neutral by 2050, it is absolutely necessary that the philosophy of sustainability is integrated into every Ministry and Department. If the introduction to Climate Change legislation is not introduced holistically, there may be a possible risk of conflicting ideology between the Climate Change Commission and other government entities. Progressing towards a carbon neutral economy is highly beneficial towards contemporary New Zealand society. With untouched natural landscapes as the main attraction, tourism is one of the largest industries in New Zealand. There is a significant importance towards the Government to endorse the most up to date Environmental Policy in order to maintain the quality of destinations to both domestic and international visitors. Eradicating the dependence on a fossil fuel economy will also allow greater national self sufficiency, and localised industries. This is highly important for an isolated country developing in an economy with ever diminishing resources.