

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 Emissions - Net zero emissions across all greenhouse gases by 2050

Notes

Meeting our ethical obligation to address climate change is well worth the difference in economic growth projected. People will not miss the additional economic growth they never had, but they will miss the loss of our coastlines, environment and stability under extreme climate change.

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

Other countries may have access to technologies that NZ will be slower to implement for economic reasons ie industrial scale carbon capture

Clause

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

Position

No

Notes

Stability is important for everyone, from individuals to businesses. This issue needs to move beyond politics.

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

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

Exceptional circumstances need to be defined, ie only from non-climate change-related natural disasters. It would be a pity for a climate change-related hurricane to be used as an excuse not to address climate change.

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

The government should be compelled by law to honour the feedback received in public consultation. Previously consultations on climate change were a farce. Huge numbers of people supported strong action on climate change and this was ignored.

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

Makes decisions itself in respect of the number of units available in the NZ ETS

Notes

Giving powers to a non political body will hopefully encourage stability and responsibility

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

Requiring expertise would prevent a political party from choosing a commissioner who will simply toe the line of their political agenda.

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

New Zealand needs to play its role in addressing climate change. I've been embarrassed by the way we have (under the previous government) buried our heads in the sand before now.