

Consultation on setting New Zealand's post-2020 climate change target



Copy of your submission

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Objectives for the contribution

Do you agree with these objectives for our contribution? No

1b. What is most important to you?

Our nationally determined contribution must signal that we are serious about preventing catastrophic climate change. Our objective should be to transition to a zero carbon economy and society by 2050.

The costs of taking action are insignificant compared to the cost of inaction, and the potential economic gains of a transition to a sustainable green economy. We need to get rid of our short term-ism and focus on making a real commitment to a carbon neutral future.

New Zealand needs to be a responsible global citizen and a leader climate negotiations.

What would be a fair contribution for New Zealand?

2. What do you think the nature of New Zealand's emissions and economy means for the level of target that we set?

New Zealand needs to pledge to reduce emissions by at least 40% from 1990 levels by 2030, and towards at least 95% by 2050. We need to advocate for a global carbon zero target by 2050.

New Zealand is well placed to make further reductions in energy emissions, with a phase out of fossil fuel extraction and burning, and an immediate ban on new fossil fuel exploration. Fossil fuel subsidies should be cut immediately, and government funds should divest from fossil fuel companies.

Increased funding and research should go towards our agricultural sector.

Improved housing and efficiency, and investment in public and active transport can further reduce emissions.

Ambitious reduction targets are needed to protect health and well being of New Zealanders.

With an economy so reliant on primary industry we will be particularly hard hit by increases in extreme weather events. As such we cannot afford not to aim for ambitious emission reduction targets.

How will our contribution affect New Zealanders?

3. What level of cost is appropriate for New Zealand to reduce it's greenhouse gas emissions? For example, what would be a reasonable reduction in annual household consumption?

The costs of inaction far outweigh the cost of taking action to reduce emissions.

The analysis provided in the discussion document is pathetic.

Climate change threatens the lives of millions of people worldwide.

A price on carbon that reflects the damage it does to the environment and society cannot be argued as unfair.

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4. Of the opportunities for New Zealand to reduce its emissions (as outlined on page 15 of the discussion document), which do you think are the most likely to occur, or be most important for New Zealand?

New Zealand needs to aim for emission reductions across all sectors.

All policy needs to consider greenhouse gas emissions.

Summary

5. How should New Zealand take into account the future uncertainties of technologies and costs when setting its target?

uncertainty should not be used as an excuse of inaction. The recent ipcc report clearly sets out the dangers of climate change the potential costs of inaction. We cannot let short term profit making distort our decision making.

Other comments

6. Is there any further information you wish the Government to consider? Please explain.

An independent climate commission to ensure New Zealand meets its carbon targets and stays within the global carbon budget