

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



Copy of your submission

Contact information

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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?

New Zealand should take a leadership position, for New Zealand as well as our Pacific neighbours. We need an ambitious target of at least 40% emissions reduction in net emissions below 1990 levels by 2030. We need a pathway with specific policies to achieve our target.

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 is a relatively wealthy country with high per capita emissions. A fair contribution would be an ambitious target.

A minimum of 40% emissions reduction by 2030 is critical to prevent serious effects to New Zealand's economy and environment.

New Zealand is not too small to make a difference.

How will our contribution affect New Zealanders?

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

Responding to climate change is worth our while. The New Climate Economy Report released in 2014 by a team of internationally renowned economists, led by Lord Nicholas Stern, found that countries can improve their economic performance while cutting emissions.

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?

A cleaner greener future offers huge opportunities for our country, including:

Better transport choices

Safer streets for cycling and walking

Good jobs in the rail and renewables industries

Export opportunities for green technology

Summary

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Ministry for the
Environment
Manatū Mo Te Taiao

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

We can assume technologies will come faster and most likely better than we expect.

Other comments

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

The Government consultation document treats action on climate change as a cost, whereas failure to take action is actually the cost.

Climate change is a threat to our economy and the things it most depends on, like tourism and farming.

Treasury found that failure to cut the huge increase in New Zealand's emissions could cost the Government up to \$52 billion. This was because the New Zealand Government would need to buy offshore credits to cover the massive increase in emissions. Instead of allowing our emissions to balloon and then pay \$52 billion, why don't we actually cut our emissions?

I would like the public submissions to be published.