

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



Copy of your submission

Contact information

Name Gareth Edwards

Organisation (if applicable)

Address [REDACTED]

Telephone [REDACTED]

Email [REDACTED]

Objectives for the contribution

Do you agree with these objectives for our contribution? Yes

1b. What is most important to you?

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?

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?

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?

Summary

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

Other comments

6. Is there any further information you wish the Government to consider? Please explain.
I first heard of anthropogenic climate change in 1987, when my chemistry lecturer described it as the greatest challenge to the environment mankind is facing.
In the quarter of a century since then our nation has taken a few steps towards constraining our emission, and then a few steps back. Market forces, which are seen to play such an important role in our economy, are deliberately undermined when it comes to emissions control, through the exclusion of certain industries and taxpayer subsidies like free carbon credits, 'two-for-one credits' and price caps. These broken market signals aren't just bad for the environment they are also bad for the economy.
We've had long enough to make some progress, it's time for us to get serious and stop making excuses.