Setting New Zealand’s post-2020 climate change target

Submission form

The Government is seeking views on New Zealand’s post-2020 climate change contribution under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).

You can have your say by making a submission using this form or using the online tool available at www.mfe.govt.nz/more/consultations.

For more information about this consultation:

- Read our Consultation on New Zealand’s post-2020 international climate change contribution web page
- Read our discussion document: New Zealand’s Climate Change Target: Our contribution to the new international climate change agreement

Submissions close at 5.00pm on Wednesday 3 June 2015.

Publishing and releasing submissions

All or part of any written submission (including names of submitters), may be published on the Ministry for the Environment’s website www.mfe.govt.nz. Unless you clearly specify otherwise in your submission, we will consider that you have consented to website posting of both your submission and your name.

Contents of submissions may be released to the public under the Official Information Act 1982 following requests to the Ministry for the Environment (including via email). Please advise if you have any objection to the release of any information contained in a submission and, in particular, which part(s) you consider should be withheld, together with the reason(s) for withholding the information. We will take into account all such objections when responding to requests for copies of, and information on, submissions to this consultation under the Official Information Act.

The Privacy Act 1993 applies certain principles about the collection, use and disclosure of information about individuals by various agencies, including the Ministry for the Environment. It governs access by individuals to information about themselves held by agencies. Any personal information you supply to the Ministry in the course of making a submission will be used by the Ministry only in relation to the matters covered by this consultation. Please clearly indicate in your
submission if you do not wish your name to be included in any summary of submissions that the Ministry may publish.
Questions to guide your feedback

Your submission may address any aspect of the discussion document, but we would appreciate you paying particular attention to the questions posed throughout and listed in this form. You may answer some or all of the questions. To ensure your point of view is clearly understood, you should explain your rationale and provide supporting evidence where appropriate.

Contact information

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>David John Evans</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Organisation</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(if applicable)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Address</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Telephone</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Email</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Objectives for the contribution

- 1a. We have set the following three objectives for our contribution:
- it is seen as a fair and ambitious contribution – both by international and domestic audiences
- costs and impacts on society are managed appropriately
- it must guide New Zealand over the long term in the global transition to a low emissions world.
  - Do you agree with these objectives for our contribution?
    - [ ] Yes
    - [ ] No
  - 1b. What is most important to you?

That we stop just talking about it and start taking action. Our emissions are still increasing many years after we committed to reducing them and it is long past time we started taking action to reducing them. Part of this is properly educating the public about the seriousness of the situation. For too long the issue has been pushed under the carpet or into the “too hard” box.

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?
We have an unusual emissions mix, but we also have more opportunities for decreasing our emissions than many other countries, so on balance I don't think our target should be relaxed because of the nature of our emissions and economy.

**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 do you think would be a reasonable impact on annual household consumption?**

The impact of not reducing global emissions is more significant than the cost of reducing them. If we want other nations to act to reduce their emissions we need to be aggressive in reducing ours. The consultation document shows that the cost of reducing emissions is not very sensitive to the level of reduction chosen. We can choose an aggressive target (40% below 1990 levels by 2027) without bankrupting the nation. Climate change is probably the biggest issue the nation will ever face and we MUST set an example of doing enough to keep global temperature rise below 2 degrees.

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?**

To aggressively reduce our emissions we will need to grasp all available opportunities, I think all those listed will be important to NZ.

**Summary**

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

Not at all. We need to be flexible about how we achieve the target, but not flexible in how we set that target.

**Other comments**

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

There are advantages to be gained by being at the forefront of emissions reduction action, we should seize the opportunity to be a leader in this area. It IS possible to reduce emissions and keep our economy performing well.

We should have a target of zero net carbon emissions by 2050, anything less will be suicidal for global civilisation.

Planning for how we reduce our emissions, and public consultation on that plan, should start immediately.
Emissions reduction targets should be expressed in a climate act along the lines of the UK Climate Change Act.

The time for action on emissions reduction is NOW. No more obfuscation and procrastination. The government should also go public on the costs to us of global reductions not being made and runaway climate change. Our health and wellbeing (including financial) depend on a climate that is as stable as is possible.

When your submission is complete

Email your completed submission to climate.contribution@mfe.govt.nz or post to Climate Change Contribution Consultation, Ministry for the Environment, PO Box 10362, Wellington 6143.

Submissions close at 5.00pm on Wednesday 3 June 2015.