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

Copy of your submission

Contact information

Name   Norman Fletcher

Organisation (if applicable)

Address

Telephone

Email

Objectives for the contribution

Do you agree with these objectives for our contribution?   Yes

1b. What is most important to you? A fair and ambitious contribution

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? NZ should adopt a model similar to the UK Climate Change Act

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? A move away from high consumption is likely to lead to a higher quality of life, a better environment and a healthier society.

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? The best way we can reduce emissions is (1) by moving, much faster than we are at present, to renewable energy. (2) by energy efficiency i.e. insulation. Passive solar buildings (helped by regulations and education. (3) Much greater investment in coastal shipping, rail and public transport (4) No more large motorways (5) More diverse, organic, high value, low intensity agriculture.

Summary

5. How should New Zealand take into account the future uncertainties of technologies and costs when setting its target? We must not rely on being able to mitigate carbon emissions of coal and oil The only safe way is to develop renewable energy.

Other comments

6. Is there any further information you wish the Government to consider? Please explain. Climatologists say if we use all the known reserves of oil we will send global warming past the tipping point. It
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would therefore be extreme folly for NZ to advance more oil exploration or develop fracking.

To postulate that we are too small to matter is to go against the essence of the fair minded, progressive society which we take great pride in. Do not burden us with a legacy of shame. You may as well argue that individuals are so insignificant they should not bother to vote.

Please do not scorn parties that do not agree with government policy on climate change. Much can be achieved by at least trying to reach consensus and listening to opposing views. That is statesmanship. Consensus is lasting. Denigratory politicking is demeaning.

Thank you for giving us the opportunity to make submissions.

The survival of the planet is at stake.

Kia kaha. Arohanui.