

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



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Contact information

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Objectives for the contribution

Do you agree with these objectives for our contribution? Yes

1b. What is most important to you?

The third objective. The best guide is a national action plan for realising 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?

We should not compromise our target for the sake of our agriculture industry.

We should abandon the pursuit of dairy as the be-all and end-all for our economy.

Promote and facilitate research on reducing the methane output of livestock as part of a national action plan.

Promote the development of a smarter, more local and resilient 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 would be a reasonable reduction in annual household consumption?

The logic of Table 1 is that New Zealand should aim for a target of 40% below 1990 as it will be cheaper in the long run relative to household income.

A strong target of 40% should be adopted to prevent the greater costs of climate change impact on our economy, way of life and environment. We have already seen such costs in microcosm in the aftermath of the Christchurch earthquakes.

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?

There are economic opportunities and advantages in an early transition to a low carbon economy.

Electric vehicles of all kinds are feasible and should be facilitated asap. We have used a hybrid vehicle for 6 years in an attempt to lower our carbon footprint.

Promote research in making biofuels commercially viable; we have considerable expertise in the country.

Some local councils are doing a great job of promoting public transport and cycle use; they are a model for the lead that should be taken at national level with a strong national action plan.

Abandon the plan to make Auckland a world city and promote migration to and development in the regions where the environmental costs are not so high.

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Ministry for the
Environment
Manatū Mo Te Taiao

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Summary

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

In the knowledge that many of the technologies that will assist us in meeting our target are already available. It is a matter of national will, more than anything.

Please don't compromise our position as a responsible nation by adopting a 'poor us, we have so many cows and sheep' approach.

Other comments

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

New Zealand needs to be ambitious when it comes to climate change.

Adopt a 40% target and a national action plan. Be a world leader!