

# 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? No

1b. What is most important to you?

I agree with the last objective. I don't like the wiggle room provided by "a fair contribution", that allows politicians to much room to dodge, especially in the face of domestic voting audiences. The appropriate costs and impacts of NZ contribution must be balanced against the costs and impacts of the doom forecasted if the 2 degree rise in temperatures is breached. I write this as Dunedin is getting hit by flooding, a cost that we're going bear. I'd rather spend \$\$ minimising the frequency of such events rather than spend the minimal on "our contribution". I agree that our contribution must guide New Zealand over the long term, so let's secure it this via an all-political party agreement.

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?

I think it means that the polluter should pay. Yes the cost would then be past onto the consumer, but it would enable the invisible hand of the market to come into play. Efficient operators would succeed.

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?

I reckon that given our wealth compared to many other countries we should go big. If a 40% reduction is going to assist the non breaching of the 2 degree rise lets go for it. A 40% reduction costs about \$34/wk per household. As a functioning society I hope that this \$\$ could be found to assist low income households in meeting this cost.

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?

Reducing greenhouse emissions, particularly from transport and agriculture, and increasing forest sinks. On the latter, from my work at both DOC and a city council I reckon there's a lot of areas which are sitters for afforestation. More grants like those under the MPI's Afforestation Scheme, promotion of the PFSI etc would assist in more areas being converted into carbon forests.

Summary

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

We shouldn't gamble on future uncertainties of technologies and costs when setting targets. We must reduce our emissions and increase forest sinks.

Other comments

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

1. I disagree with this Government's stance which seems to be that we are going to do what other countries are doing and no more. Failure on reducing the world's emissions, from what the IPCC says= doom, perhaps extinction of us as a species. I consider this threat to be a little greater than the "impact on competitiveness of NZ businesses and placing unnecessary costs on households.
2. I don't want NZ to buy its way out by purchasing dodgy carbon credits. Lets produce our own by growing our own forests and ensuring that these actually work.
3. I want a yearly reduction in our emissions committed to via a cross party agreement.
4. Could someone please explain to the Government that the economy is a subset of the environment, if the latter turns to custard then the economy will also.

Thank you very much for the chance to make a submission.