

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



Copy of your submission

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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?

Please rethink your second objective to include the opportunities of moving to a low carbon economy. When you say "Costs and impacts" there is the assumption that this transition will be expensive and difficult. The recent UN study shows that there is enormous opportunity for countries like NZ, that have the natural resources to transition to long term sustainability. The phrase should read "costs and benefits" . Please do your homework to show that the technology leaders and ecology leaders will win in this transition. It is only the laggards, like NZ so far, that will lose. Like Kiwisaver, the benefits go to the early adopters.

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?

Once again, this question assumes the negative. There is an enormous upside to reducing our dependence on foreign oil, creating thousands of high-tech jobs in our transportation and energy sector, and the benefits from efficiency roll-outs of smart meters, electric vehicles, and new generation technologies just coming about now. We can be part of the winning economies, or we can drag our feet and lose the opportunity that will go to the technology leaders. The question above is flawed. It could read " What are the opportunities in sustainable technology that will make a great contribution for New Zealand, while being very profitable"

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?

If we are early adopters and support the most integrated energy futures, the effect will be fundamentally wonderful for New Zealanders. If we lag and do as little as possible and make it business as usual, we will get a sad result that will be costly and ineffective in securing a stable climate for our next generations.

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?

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Ministry for the
Environment
Manatū Mo Te Taiao

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We should immediately stop building roads for the current paradigm of cars. We should adopt a science based approach to climate adaptation. We should embrace the winning technologies that can make our nation a more secure and more comfortable place, if we can see that the adoption of low-carbon tech is unavoidable. We should start investing in these technologies now (remove the stigma of costs in your question) and get the benefit of investors rather than buyers of the new tech.

Other comments

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

Please find people to phrase these questions without the pre-supposed negative aspect to the answers. Please read the recent UN study on business and climate change. We are presented with valuable opportunities that this Government needs to embrace. If you love making money, turn this climate requirement into a profitable future. It clearly can be this way. As an business owner that is making good profits on climate friendly products, support the business opportunities and stop building old tech roads and infrastructure.