

# 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](http://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](http://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

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### 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?

No.

1b. What is most important to you?

The reality.

The discussion document “New Zealand’s Climate Change Target” seeks public views on New Zealand’s post-2020 climate change under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. Why then, does it indicate the response it seeks in the opening paragraphs in its “Foreword”? The words it uses accept completely, the claimed ‘settled science’ orthodoxy preached by these UN political

agencies, the UNFCCC and the UN Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. In other words, the New Zealand Government is accepting, uncritically, the advice of unaccountable international political agencies of the U.N. without having made an attempt to undertake an independent assessment of their claims. This is subjugating the Nation-State of New Zealand, notwithstanding, the concern “to frame any commitment to which a future New Zealand government would be held to account in 2030.”

Given that climate change is inherently unpredictable (chaotic), and that UNIPCC model projections are known to be false, how can there be any practical response to chaotic climate hazard, beyond that of preparing for and adapting to damaging change.

The nascent knowledge of humans is barely dealing with the complexity of the influences causing climate change -

<http://wattsupwiththat.com/2015/05/13/forecasting-climate-change-is-a-very-complex-process/>

Surely, to persist with unquestioning acceptance of the views of climate alarmists, is to ignore the extant controversy that rages, about the fundamental validity of the ‘settled science’ claims of these political UN Agencies: imaginings of consensus/climate models v. empirical/observation realities, that are increasingly revealing fatal flaws in the claimed settled science, as summarized in the growing comprehensive studies and reports of independent scientists, including the Nongovernmental International Panel on Climate Change (NIPCC).

In 2001 the UNIPCC acknowledged “*In climate research and modelling, we should recognize that we are dealing with a coupled non-linear chaotic system, and therefore that long-term prediction of future climate states is not possible.*” UNIPCC Third Assessment Report (2001), Section 14.2.2.2, page 774”.

More recently in the AR5 2014 UNIPCC Working group III ‘Summary for Policymakers’ it was more disinclined. There, the limitations of climate models in planning mitigation policies are virtually hidden as a footnote:

*“The long-term scenarios assessed in WGIII were generated primarily by large-scale, integrated models that project many key characteristics of mitigation pathways to mid-century and beyond... They are simplified, stylized representations of highly complex real-world processes, and the scenarios they produce are based on uncertain projections about key events and drivers over often century long-long timescales. Simplifications and differences in assumptions are the reason why output generated from different models, or versions of the same model, can differ, and projections from all models can differ considerably from the reality that unfolds”.*

( IPCC, 2014: Summary for Policymakers, In: Climate Change 2014, Mitigation of Climate Change. Contribution of Working Group III to the Fifth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change [Edenhofer, O., R. Pichs-Madruga, Y. Sokona, E. Farahani, S. Kadner, K. Seyboth, A. Adler, I. Baum, S. Brunner, P. Eickemeier, C. von Stechow, T. Zwickel and J.C. Minx (eds.)]. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, United Kingdom and New York, NY, USA, p. 10, Footnote 14 (Italics for emphasis), [http://report.mitigation2014.org/spm/ipcc\\_wg3\\_ar5\\_summary-for-policymakers\\_approved.pdf](http://report.mitigation2014.org/spm/ipcc_wg3_ar5_summary-for-policymakers_approved.pdf), accessed 30 July 2014.)

Surely, such a critically important qualification should have been made more obvious.

The claimed ‘settled’ science promoted by UNFCCC and the IPCC is intended for national governments, including the New Zealand Government, to adhere to, and use in their respective national policy creation. This has been made clear recently by Christian Figueres, the Executive Secretary of UNFCCC, who has pointed out that *“the fight against climate change is a process and that the necessary transformation of the world economy will not be decided at one conference or in one agreement...This is the first time in the history of mankind that we are setting ourselves the task of intentionally, within a defined period of time to change the economic development model that has been reigning for at least 150 years...”*.

These are the words of the UN political bureaucracy seeking to hasten its nation-state members in the direction of its making. “A defined time period” clearly means as soon as possible, because delay will inevitably reveal the “reality that unfolds”, that it is natural variability that determines when and how the climate changes. (“120 years of climate scares” by Thomas Lifson in ‘American Thinker Blog 04-06-2014: <http://Users/Admin/Desktop/Blog:%20120%20years%20of%20climate%20scares.webarchive>).

Thereby, in effect, the U.N. political bureaucracy is preparing to usurp the sovereign rights of nation-state governments to determine policy according to the needs, and for the well being of, their citizens. The UNIPCC’s political ‘summaries for policy makers’ reports’ have been preparing a very dubious pathway to this end for the UNFCCC. Indeed, this is confirmed in their respective charters and histories.

Their political ‘summaries for policymakers’ are aimed to guide the policymakers of each nation-state in their planning and execution of their key national and global policies to mitigate the effect of climate change they claim is caused by man-made emissions of carbon dioxide, they call it pollution. But, that is wrong.

*“We need to be vigilant to keep our land, air and waters free of real pollution, particulates, heavy metals, pathogens, but carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) is not one of*

*these pollutants. Carbon is the stuff of life. Our bodies are made of carbon. Every day a normal human exhales around 1kg of CO<sub>2</sub>...At the present time, the concentration of CO<sub>2</sub> in the atmosphere is about 400 parts per million (ppm) of all atmospheric molecules and less than 1 per cent of that in our breath....By breathing are we rendering the air unclean, defiling or desecrating it?.... As far as green plants are concerned, CO<sub>2</sub> is not a pollutant, but part of their daily bread.....Most plants stop growing if CO<sub>2</sub> levels drop much below 150 ppm.....Why not scrub it all out...except, that we would have nothing to eat and a few other minor inconveniences.” (“The Truth About Greenhouse Gases” by William Happer, Professor of Physics at Princeton University).*

And, consider “agriculture is key to New Zealand’s economic success”.

The UNFCCC and UNIPCC “settled science orthodoxy” is built on output projections of models - *which “are simplified, stylized representations of highly-complex real-world processes, and the scenarios they produce are based on uncertain projections about key events and drivers over often century long-long timescales”*, whose “defined periods of time” are dependent on “the reality that unfolds” from natural variability.

The potential costs involved in pursuing this UNFCCC process must aggregate in the trillions of dollars. Who will bear the cost?

The whole process is a political artifice for those who can benefit from the massive movements of money, power and control. It is a machination that did not happen by accident. Ethical, it is not!

IPCC, 2014: Summary for Policymakers, In: Climate Change 2014, Mitigation of Climate Change. Contribution of Working Group III to the Fifth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change [Edenhofer, O., R. Pichs-Madruga, Y. Sokona, E. Farahani, S. Kadner, K. Seyboth, A. Adler, I. Baum, S. Brunner, P. Eickemeier, C. von Stechow, T. Zwickel and J.C. Minx (eds.)]. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, United Kingdom and New York, NY, USA, p. 10, Footnote 14 (Italics for emphasis), [http://report.mitigation2014.org/spm/ipcc\\_wg3\\_ar5\\_summary-for-policymakers\\_approved.pdf](http://report.mitigation2014.org/spm/ipcc_wg3_ar5_summary-for-policymakers_approved.pdf), accessed 30 July 2014.

This overall situation is fraught with social and political danger, for it leaves each nation-state’s government open to the severest criticism of its policy making, not only for being based on strongly contested science, but above all, lacking in common sense and environmental and cost effectiveness. Such a position has been emphasized by the hypocrisy revealed in the recent statement by President Obama - “Climate Change is real, man-made, and happening now. The stakes are too high not to act”.

How can that be when the pre-requisite scientific foundation is missing?

The validity of the IPCC’s scientific recommendations, is in the sharp focus of independent climate scientists internationally. For example, the weakness of the ‘settled’ science was the major point made recently by Professor Judith A. Curry in her “Statement to the Committee on Science, Space and Technology of

the United States House of Representatives on 15 April 2015:

“Recent data and research supports the importance of natural climate variability and calls into question the conclusion that humans are the dominant cause of recent climate change:

- The hiatus in global warming since 1998
- Reduced estimates of the sensitivity of climate to carbon dioxide
- Climate models predict much more warming than has been observed in the early 21st century”.

Link to Judith Curry’s presentation:

[http://nzclimatescience.net/images/PDFs/judith\\_curry\\_house-science-testimony-apr-15-2015-final.pdf](http://nzclimatescience.net/images/PDFs/judith_curry_house-science-testimony-apr-15-2015-final.pdf)

The New Zealand Government needs to test and audit the advice it has received from its publicly funded agencies, particularly where those agencies are represented on the World Meteorological Organisation (WMO) and/or the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and/or the UNIPCC. WMO and UNEP fund the UNIPCC, with contributions from governments. Evidence has shown there is considerable interconnection of key people between these organisations and Green groups such as the WWF (UK Daily Telegraph 05-05-2012 by Christopher Booker), and “The delinquent teenager who was mistaken for the world’s top climate scientist” by Donna Laframboise”

The charter of the UNIPCC is limited to “ assess on a comprehensive, objective, open and transparent basis the scientific, technical and socio-economic information relevant to understanding the scientific basis of risk of human-induced climate change, its potential impacts and options for adaptation and mitigation. UNIPCC reports should be neutral with respect to policy.” It focuses almost entirely on “the risk of human-induced climate change”. Consideration of natural causes are outside its charter. This startling limitation and the authority given to the UNIPCC whose existence depends on its own reports for its funding, has resulted in evidence of manipulated reports, particularly in respect to the political “summaries for policymakers” (What is wrong with the UNIPCC - Proposals for a radical reform” by Ross McKittrick Professor of Economics at the University of Guelph in Canada). Also (“The delinquent teenager who was mistaken for the world’s top climate scientist” by Donna Laframboise”)

The New Zealand Government needs to seek completely independent advice on the adequacy of its current climate policies, not least in order to avoid exacerbating the current costs and deficiencies of those policies by agreeing to further carbon-dioxide restrictive actions at the forthcoming meeting in Paris

later this year.

## 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?**

Your economy has the higher priority

## 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?**

None

**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?**

None

## Summary

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

The New Zealand Government should seek completely independent advice on the adequacy of its current climate policies, not least in order to avoid exacerbating the current costs and deficiencies of those policies by agreeing to further carbon-dioxide restrictive actions at the forthcoming meeting in Paris later this year.

## Other comments

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

## When your submission is complete

Email your completed submission to [climate.contribution@mfe.govt.nz](mailto: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.**