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

Copy of your submission

Contact information

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Organisation (if applicable)

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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 want our government to set an ambitious emissions reduction target, as part of a vision for a low carbon future.

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?
A 40% reduction target is realistic and achievable. Even using the government’s conservative and questionable economic modelling, New Zealand household income is still projected to increase from $73,000 per year today, to $83,200 per year in 2027 with a 40% emissions reduction target.

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?
It is important that New Zealand does its fair share. Many countries can claim ‘special circumstances’ but in the long run, every country will need to pursue a low-carbon future, regardless of their own set of challenges. The sooner we start down this path, the easier and cheaper it will be.

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?
I want the government to set in place ambitious policies to reduce emissions in New Zealand. I want the government to make it cheaper to buy a low emissions car, more convenient to travel by public transport and to set in place policies to help companies reduce pollution. A clean energy future for New Zealand is 100% possible.

Summary

5. How should New Zealand take into account the future uncertainties of technologies and costs when setting its target?
I want the government to set in place ambitious policies to reduce emissions in New Zealand. I want the government to make it cheaper to buy a low emissions car, more convenient to travel by public transport and to set in place policies to help companies reduce pollution. A clean energy future for New Zealand is 100% possible.
6. Is there any further information you wish the Government to consider? Please explain.
Submission to Tim Groser, Minister for Climate Change Issues

I ask that the Intended Nationally Determined Contribution (INDC):

(i) commits to a global and New Zealand zero-carbon target by 2050 or sooner, with annual steps outlining how to get there as quickly as possible.

(ii) places an immediate moratorium on fossil fuel exploration, and pledges to phase out existing fossil fuel extraction within the decade. All subsidies, funding and tax breaks to the fossil fuel industry also become phased out within the decade.

(iii) includes credible, transparent, cross-party plans, with a legislated, independent Climate Commission to ensure NZ meets its targets and stays within the global carbon budget.

(iv) Abides by the articles laid out in Te Tiriti o Waitangi.

(v) includes health, fairness, and the true costs of inaction on climate change in the assessment of costs and benefits.

(vi) follows a transparent decision-making process after the consultation process ends.

I really, truly care about this, as an active citizen, teacher, and proud kiwi.

Thank you so much,
Ash Jones