

**From:** Julie Jones [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 2 June 2015 12:31 p.m.  
**To:** Climate Contribution  
**Subject:** Submission 10110

## Submission on Climate Change Contribution Consultation

I ask you to adopt a minimum target of a 40% reduction in net emissions below 1990 levels by 2030 – the minimum contribution required to keep us under 2 degrees global warming.

The Government consultation document treats action on climate change as a cost, whereas failure to take action is actually the cost. Treasury found that if New Zealand continues on its current trajectory of increasing emissions, the cost to taxpayers of even a modest 5% reduction target will be up to \$52 billion. The more we lower our emissions the more we will reduce this cost.

Climate change is a threat to our economy and the things it most depends on, like tourism and farming. Our agricultural nation depends on a stable climate. Our farmers will suffer increased droughts and damaging storms and profits will suffer.

Responding to climate change is worth our while. The New Climate Economy Report released in 2014 by a team of internationally renowned economists, led by Lord Nicholas Stern, found that countries can improve their economic performance while cutting emissions. The Chair of the Bank of America, the head of the OECD, the World Bank, the Vice Chair of Deutsche Bank, and many others, endorsed this finding.

I request that you stop downplaying our responsibility for climate change saying New Zealand is too small to make a difference. It's not in our national character to sit on the fence and watch others get the job done.

It's time for us to do the right thing again. We were the first to give women the vote. We stood behind our Pacific neighbours in rejecting nuclear testing. Now's our chance to create a climate plan that New Zealanders can be proud to stand behind, and that starts with a target of reducing emissions by at least 40% by 2030.

### **Other Comments:**

It seems glaring obvious to me, 48% of NZ's greenhouse gas emissions are from our ruminant based agriculture, this has to be the elephant (or rather ruminant) in the room.....yes, let's continue to research, but not wait for, technological innovation in this regard. Red meat & dairy protein is only source of food in the universe, let's be 'creative & innovative & adaptable' (Kiwis have been this since time immemorial) and lead the tide change towards more a more sustainable, more energy efficient, less polluting agriculture industry. The 'bad boys' of sugar and salt aside, a public health campaign about the benefits of a 'reduced' meat diet would have a positive outcome on our health spending too!

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