

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



Copy of your submission

Contact information

Name David Jowett

Organisation (if applicable)

Address [REDACTED]

Telephone [REDACTED]

Email [REDACTED]

Objectives for the contribution

Do you agree with these objectives for our contribution? Yes

1b. What is most important to you?

If the management of costs is considered to any extent we will not make the necessary level of cuts to our emissions. All that matters is that we start making fair and ambitious contributions without delay.

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?

It is entirely irrelevant. All countries can make out special cases for exemption from making cuts to their emissions. Since we are only achieving a 1% annual increase in efficiency of use of fossil fuels in our agriculture sector - and this figure is unlikely to rise significantly in the near future - reductions in agricultural production are the only option.

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 would be a reasonable reduction in annual household consumption?

It is inevitable that reductions in fossil fuel use will lead to reductions in disposable income. In fact such such income reductions are essential if general levels of consumption - and it is consumption of manufactured goods which drives environmental degradation in general - are to be reduced.

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?

We need to develop transport infrastructure which can take advantage of reticulated electricity supplies. A carbon tax should be used to raise funds which can be devoted solely to the construction of electric heavy rail links, light rail, trams and trolley buses. Continued emphasis on private car use is unwise. Electric cars have a significant carbon footprint, perhaps as large as the fossil fuel equivalents they replace.

Summary

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

It should take no account of such uncertainties. We must act now. Any delay will constrain our ability to act in the future.y

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



Copy of your submission

Other comments

6. Is there any further information you wish the Government to consider? Please explain.
All that matters is that we provide a secure environment for our children, grandchildren and future generations. We are already way past the carrying capacity of the Earth to provide such an environment. The most crucial issue the world faces is the attitude of entitlement held by developed and developing countries alike. We must learn to share the worlds resources equitably.