

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



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## Contact information

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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?

We need a plan to get to zero emissions by 2050. We have no other option. Our contribution must be ambitious, we have the opportunity to become a world leader and other countries are looking to us to set an example. If we can't set ambitious targets with our wealth, expertise and resources, who in the world can?

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?

We should set a target of 40% reduction by 2030. I think that if our country depends so much on a polluting industry we need to transition away from this industry to a more sustainable one. There are so many things that we could be doing to reduce our emissions and if the government set clear ambitious targets we would do our best to get there.

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?

Infometrics data shows that even a 40% decrease in emissions by 2030 will result in a change in growth from 2.2% to a 2.1%. I think this is a reasonable reduction in growth. But we also need to remember that the cost of inaction will be far higher than the cost of action at the moment. The discussion document does not mention this cost at all and this should be rectified. Basically either path will cost but taking ambitious action will cost less in the long term.

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?

The decarbonisation of the transport sector is definitely achievable and the complete decarbonisation of the electricity sector is important too. Our remaining thermal generation could be replaced by many renewable/clean options including geothermal.

## Summary

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

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Don't take into account future uncertainties. There will be no silver bullet for climate change. Plan for the technology we have now and then if something comes along then we will have insurance. We don't have any second chances on this so we have to do it right.

Other comments

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

We should stop worrying so much about short term cost because if we continue on our current path there will be no future. The government needs to take leadership on this issue and demand that the world follows in our footsteps. We can do this.