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

Copy of your submission

Contact information

Name   Andrew Last

Organisation (if applicable)

Address

Telephone

Email

Objectives for the contribution

Do you agree with these objectives for our contribution?   Yes

1b. What is most important to you? Effective reduction of emissions

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?
The most important thing is to protect New Zealand from dangerous temperature and sea level rises. At the very minimum, a 40% emissions reduction by 2030 is necessary to prevent serious effects to our way of life, our economy and our environment. While this target is to start in 2020, the time to act is now.

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?
Whatever it takes, but emphasis is on agricultural emissions - i.e reductions to industry first & households after.

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?
Responding to climate change is worth our while. A cleaner greener future offers huge opportunities for our country, including better transport choices, safer streets for cycling and walking, good jobs in the rail and renewables industries and export opportunities for green technology.

Summary

5. How should New Zealand take into account the future uncertainties of technologies and costs when setting its target?
The Government’s consultation document treats action on climate change as a cost. Actually, it is failure to take action that will cost us. 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.
– Has the Government done any analysis to assess the cost of not acting on climate change? Such as the impact of drought and floods on our farming sector?
– Has the Government done any analysis to assess the benefits of acting on climate change? Such as more jobs in the green tech sector or health benefits through reduced air pollution?
6. Is there any further information you wish the Government to consider? Please explain.

- Why is the government funding, recruiting and subsidising the fossil fuel industry when we know climate change is an issue facing us now?
- Can other countries take our commitments seriously if meanwhile our government organisation, NZ Petroleum and Minerals is recruiting fossil fuel companies to drill up our EEZ?
- Why has the Government provided so little notice for this consultation?
  – How will submissions to the consultation be used to inform the Government’s target?
  – Will the results of the consultation be made public?
  – When will the Government announce the results of the consultation and New Zealand’s target?