

Setting New Zealand's post-2020 climate change target

Submission form

The Government is seeking views on New Zealand's post-2020 climate change contribution under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).

You can have your say by making a submission using this form or using the online tool available at www.mfe.govt.nz/more/consultations.

For more information about this consultation:

- Read our [Consultation on New Zealand's post-2020 international climate change contribution web page](#)
- Read our discussion document: [New Zealand's Climate Change Target: Our contribution to the new international climate change agreement](#)

Submissions close at 5.00pm on Wednesday 3 June 2015.

Publishing and releasing submissions

All or part of any written submission (including names of submitters), may be published on the Ministry for the Environment's website www.mfe.govt.nz. Unless you clearly specify otherwise in your submission, we will consider that you have consented to website posting of both your submission and your name.

Contents of submissions may be released to the public under the Official Information Act 1982 following requests to the Ministry for the Environment (including via email). Please advise if you have any objection to the release of any information contained in a submission and, in particular, which part(s) you consider should be withheld, together with the reason(s) for withholding the information. We will take into account all such objections when responding to requests for copies of, and information on, submissions to this consultation under the Official Information Act.

The Privacy Act 1993 applies certain principles about the collection, use and disclosure of information about individuals by various agencies, including the Ministry for the Environment. It governs access by individuals to information about themselves held by agencies. Any personal information you supply to the Ministry in the course of making a submission will be used by the Ministry only in relation to the matters covered by this consultation. Please clearly indicate in your submission if you do not wish your name to be included in any summary of submissions that the Ministry may publish.

Questions to guide your feedback

Your submission may address any aspect of the discussion document, but we would appreciate you paying particular attention to the questions posed throughout and listed in this form. You may answer some or all of the questions. To ensure your point of view is clearly understood, you should explain your rationale and provide supporting evidence where appropriate.

Contact information

Name	Fionnaigh McKenzie
Organisation (if applicable)	
Address	████████████████████████████████████████
Telephone	██████████
Email	██████████

Objectives for the contribution

1a. We have set the following three objectives for our contribution:

- **it is seen as a fair and ambitious contribution – both by international and domestic audiences**
- **costs and impacts on society are managed appropriately**
- **it must guide New Zealand over the long term in the global transition to a low emissions world.**

Do you agree with these objectives for our contribution?

- Yes
 No

1b. What is most important to you?

My children's future is what is most important to me.

We must make an ambitious contribution which is responsible and fair to the global community and to future generations of New Zealanders. It is not about whether it is "seen" as fair, it is about what we must do to reduce climate change as much as we can.

We must transition towards having a zero carbon economy by 2050. We need a detailed plan with annual steps to achieve this.

We must measure and discuss benefits as well as costs of reducing emissions, including health benefits.

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 have advantages, in that we have a lot of renewable energy already and plenty of scope to expand this. We are also a wealthy country, and we are innovative. A fair contribution for future generations means doing as much as we can as soon as we can. At a minimum we need to join other nations in pledging at least 40% cuts in our domestic greenhouse gas emissions compared with 1990 emissions, by 2030.

We must immediately cease fossil fuel exploration and phase out existing extraction by 2025. We must stop subsidising and investing in fossil fuels.

We need to move to 100% renewable electricity by 2025.

We need to invest in public transport, cycling and walking networks.

We need to invest in research into renewable energy and diversifying food production.

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 do you think would be a reasonable impact on annual household consumption?

We need to consider the cost of inaction, which will be much more than the cost of action. We need to increase education about what steps households can take, and we need to subsidise solutions like insulation and efficient heating for disadvantaged households. This will be a "cost" but will also have benefits for health as well as the climate.

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?

Energy efficiency, increased use of renewables, increased use of electric vehicles and active modes of transport are all likely to occur. Most important for New Zealand will be reducing our transport emissions and diversifying our economy so we are less dependent on meat and dairy production.

Summary

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

What is certain, is that, as the Minister's introduction notes, "Climate change is a truly global problem... To be successful in limiting the most harmful impacts of climate change all countries need to contribute to reducing emissions." The Government needs to commit to ambitious targets, and start acting on these, including investing in new technologies. Ambitious targets will development of innovative technologies. We need to take into account the certainty that there will be major costs to inaction.

Other comments

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

We need to focus on the benefits of climate action. We need to prioritise the health of current and future generations, fairness for vulnerable members of our society, and fairness for our Pacific neighbours.

We need to put our emissions targets into domestic law, with something similar to the UK Climate Change Act. We also need an independent Climate Commission.

Kiwisaver providers should be required to divest from fossil fuels.

We must restore our biodiversity wherever possible, investing in reforestation projects, and banning removal of timber from native forests, including fallen trees.

When your submission is complete

Email your completed submission to climate.contribution@mfe.govt.nz or post to Climate Change Contribution Consultation, Ministry for the Environment, PO Box 10362, Wellington 6143.

Submissions close at 5.00pm on Wednesday 3 June 2015.