

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



Copy of your submission

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?

That it is an ambitious target. All societies will need to get out of their comfort zone as they face lower standards of living due to less access to fossil fuels. Current efforts to meet current commitments have been pathetic, we've done very little, and got a lot worse.

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 means some things (fuel, electricity, meat) will need to cost more. We'll have to use less of them. It will hurt big greedy business. Some pain now or a lot more pain in the future. Don't kick the can down the road. "Fair" is too nice a spin. More like we're facing an existential crisis, do something substantial about it.

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?

Indeed, at least \$1,800 per household is what we need to avoid a very grim future. Time to face up.

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?

Technological solutions won't arrive fast enough, or be cheap enough, or be widely deployed enough. So expecting them to save us from ourselves leads to failure. I suspect we won't do enough, and will wear the full brunt of volatile oil price & supply. Transitioning to a low carbon economy would be awesome, but no-one in the current Govt will have the guts to turn off the oil tap, or increase the excise duty on it make it appropriately more expensive.

Summary

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

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target?

The same way any risk is managed, with the precautionary principle. We simply plan to do a lot more, since very likely technology improvements will let us down. We reduce our fossil fuel use significantly, now.

Other comments

6. Is there any further information you wish the Government to consider? Please explain.
So many words have already been written on climate change, little more needs to be said. The information is clear and concise.
What we need now is action. Hard targets. Finite limits. Policy changes.
Tax increases on bad climate goods. Tough enforcement on water quality.
Limits on waste. Rules that curb peoples excess consumption. Zero immigration.
Action to bring our lifestyle within the carrying capacity of the planet.