

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?

1b. What is most important to you?

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?

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?

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?

Summary

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

Other comments

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

It is counterproductive for fossil fuel exploration to be occurring, with general acceptance that the bulk of known fossil fuel reserves cannot be extracted if the agreed two degree centigrade global temperature rise is to be avoided.

Condoning exploration for unutilizable reserves sends a confusing message to the international public, who are being simultaneously asked to make lifestyle changes in order to limit their carbon dioxide or equivalent emissions. If the multinational corporations involved in fossil fuel exploration and extraction were penalized via taxation disincentives for example, they would through self interest focus on more efficient utilization of existing resources, while being encouraged to diversify into sustainable energy resources.

Incentives should be made available to all fossil fuel exploration organisations so they too could diversify into renewable energy research, development and production, hence skills and workforce need not be wasted in other sectors.

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In conclusion, international agreements must be sought to use financial disincentives to suspend international and national fossil fuel exploration.