

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 our country sets an example of how to achieve zero emissions within 30 years.

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 are in a very fortunate position to be able to notify plans to the rest of the world about how to achieve zero emissions within 30 years for ourselves and to thereby help other countries with their planning.

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?

A number of principles for seeking equitable distribution of the costs over the next 30 years is needed with built-in evaluation and transparency.

The sooner we start the less we will notice any household cash hikes.

There are many incentives to offer around business and household energy efficiencies, and in transport and taxing/levying both at local and national levels. Export/import fluctuations will vary as wildly as the weather so we'll want long-term insurance advice about monopolies and diversification.

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 Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (INDC) must be guided by scientific evidence on the timescale and rate of reductions of our emissions to zero over the next 30 years. Economists, and the public deserve no less. Media and public education while not scare-mongering, need to convey the scientific evidence asap.

Summary

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

We have some built-in advantages, which will buy time for technological and engineering advances eg our current high proportion of energy self-sufficiency, and the forest sequestering over the next 30 years.

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Other comments

6. Is there any further information you wish the Government to consider? Please explain.
That we expect Government to help us give our best shot to face up to global warming as the principal responsibility facing our generation, for the sake of all future generations.