
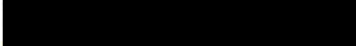
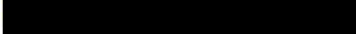


1. Climate Change Contribution Consultation.
2. Deborah Isabella Robb
3. 
4. 
5. 

My responses to the questions raised in the Discussion Document are as follows;

1. It is most important to me that New Zealand's contribution should be fair and ambitious. In keeping with its image, this country should be a role model in Paris. We are small, adaptable and relatively unified and tell ourselves that we are clever. Let's set a target that is aspirational and will drive positive change in our communities.

By 'fair and ambitious' I think there are 2 priorities that the government needs to juggle.

- A) Those who can least afford to pay and those who are most economically vulnerable eg families on low incomes and beneficiaries, should pay the least.
- B) Those who are heavy emitters should be subject to price signals that either change their behaviour or present 'windfalls' to the government which can be used to mitigate emissions in other ways.

For example a dairy farmer; i) has perhaps deforested land to farm
ii) has the highest emitting stock
iii) processes milk in coal-fired plants
iv) has high transport emissions – in liquid form daily
v) imports feed (palm kernel) which has both a deforesting component overseas and unnecessary further transport emissions.
This production model would make no economic sense if the costs (we haven't even mentioned the pollution to water which is another cost to taxpayers) in terms of emissions were paid by the farmer instead of being subsidised by the rest of the population. This practice has to stop.

Business, including agriculture should not be subsidised to emit CO₂. Price signals or regulation are required to change business practice. It has been proved over the last 30 years that there will not be voluntary behaviour change from this sector.

2. The whole tenor of the Discussion Document is about making excuses for a less than ambitious target. Most countries, including NZ have been doing that for years which is why we now have to make significant and rapid changes to the way we do things. In the document, where do you factor in the costs of not keeping under the 2* target? (Sea level rise, climate refugees, floods, droughts, fires, increased storms) Business as usual is not an option.

Your question is 'what do you think the nature of NZ's emissions and economy mean for the level of target we set?' I ask what do you think the level of target we NEED to set means for the nature of NZ's emissions and economy? My answer is that our emissions are far too high and our economy is on borrowed time, ie suicidal.

3. I can't answer this question in isolation from what our reduction in emissions per head needs to be to stay within 2* of warming. If the countries of the world have agreed it is dangerous to exceed this target temperature then it is a matter of working out allowable tonnes per head of population which gives each country its quota. Governments then have to juggle who gets to emit more or less, pay more or less and trade CO2 quotas if they can. Whether the result is 'reasonable' is subjective therefore meaningless. How can we expect to make only what we think are 'reasonable' compromises when climate refugees the world over are losing their land and livelihoods due to climate change and their numbers will only increase?

Bearing their plight in mind, I think 40% below 1990 levels for \$1800 per year sounds like a good deal.

4. New Zealand should increase;

- Solar power esp water heating
- Improved building design to reduce energy input
- Public transport opportunities
- Rail and sea freight rather than road
- Marginal land return to forest
- Waste minimilisation (esp packaging) by regulation
- Research and development funding for reducing emissions

5. NZ should assume new technologies are unproven until they prove otherwise and are taken up. Their contribution should be seen as a bonus and not assumed upfront.

On the cost side, NZ should set the target required to keep below 2* and back itself to make it work with our much professed No8 wire, can do attitude. We will do best and most sustainably, by being aspirational both for our own development as an independent and unified nation and on the world stage. Not as a dinosaur economy, clinging to the past with its fingernails.