

From: John Robert McKinnon [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, 1 June 2015 8:53 a.m.
To: Climate Contribution
Subject: Submission 14120

To whom it may concern,

As a long-time National party supporter, I am using a Green party initiative to push the National Party towards changes that really do require attention and leadership.

The government may be serious about climate change but it certainly does not publically demonstrate that. All scientific evidence points towards a need to make changes now. Many of the NZ public is aware of this need and, I would guess, that includes numerous National Party supporters, including myself.

There is a priority for National to make climate-sensible changes. International evidence shows that such changes can have a real economic benefit. As a party, National needs to seize the initiative on this. In my view there would be widespread support for such moves.

I accept that there has to be a judgement call between climatic policy and economics. Some suggestions in the Green list have questionable economic sense. However, many do, and National should look to policies such as:

- Commit to have 80% renewable electricity within 10 years
- Phase out Huntly power station by 2020, but keep it for emergency use.
- Develop a low carbon action plan to ensure that by 2050 all areas of energy (electricity, heating, transport and industrial use) come from clean energy sources instead of fossil fuels.
- Reform the electricity markets by guaranteeing priority access to the grid for renewable power generators.
- Prioritise the import and infrastructure needs (e.g fast charging points) for hybrid and electric vehicles.
- Investigate the potential in plantation wood waste to provide sustainable transport fuels.
- Research 'low input' farming methods that are proven to reduce pollution and increase farming profits.
- Prioritise geothermal projects
- Promote New Zealand as an international centre of excellence for developing and trialling ocean energy technologies.

National should provide leadership in such matters. There are real political and economic benefits in exploring such policies.

Sincerely

John McKinnon