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 all countries, including New Zealand, make significant efforts to ensure the sustainability of our planet, without inhibiting economies and personal progress through unnecessary costs.

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?
Yes, New Zealanders produce carbon dioxide. All animals do. Fortunately, carbon dioxide is an extremely inefficient greenhouse gas. In no way should we be looking to inhibit economical efficiency by attempting to reduce "carbon" emissions. As a combined agricultural and industrial country, we should be attempting to limit true pollutants that will have an effect on our planet: methane, heavy metal pollutants, corrosive compounds etc.

How will our contribution affect New Zealanders?

3. What level of cost is appropriate for New Zealand to reduce it’s greenhouse gas emissions? For example, what would be a reasonable reduction in annual household consumption?
Nothing. Any step taken by a household to reduce pollutants will, in the long run, be economically beneficial to the household, if taken wisely. Electric vehicles will be cheaper to run (provided there is the basic infrastructure to support them), and domestic solar panels pay themselves off when a user does not have to pay for electricity. Provided we only attempt to reduce real pollutants (and not CO2), the costs to a household will be negligible.

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? Electric vehicles, alternative energy sources (e.g. solar).

Summary

5. How should New Zealand take into account the future uncertainties of technologies and costs when setting its target?
It is obvious that money spent on investing in new technologies is far better than being wasted on Carbon spending. New technologies will be of benefit to the planet as well as our economy, while Carbon trading is not.
6. Is there any further information you wish the Government to consider? Please explain.
CO2 is NOT a pollutant. It is a vital life-giving gas that is pumped into glasshouses to make plants grow faster and produce more. Taxing CO2 is having a negative effect on our planet for the following reasons: Manufacturing plants in NZ have strict POLLUTANT controls, where emission scrubbing removes most if not all of the pollutants. Our steel mill at Glenbrook is one of the cleanest and most efficient in the world. But because Carbon Tax makes our products less affordable on the world market we find those products now being made in countries that not only produce much more un-taxed Carbon per product made, but most importantly they do not remove the POLLUTANTS from their emissions. Our planet is far better off having products made cleanly here in NZ – but we must get rid of the nonsense CO2 tax.
CO2 trading does not actually do anything for the planet, but price and profit will become the main objective – whilst not doing anything about real polluting emissions.

I wish to be heard in support of this submission.