



1b. What is most important to you?

We need principles to guide us not expediency and self-interest. Through commitment of the principles of the common good and participation (principles of Catholic Social Teaching), that Aotearoa New Zealand work toward Zero Carbon. Aotearoa New Zealand will not solve climate change alone. However, Aotearoa New Zealand has the capacity to give moral leadership which in other matters we did and have made a difference (women's suffrage; nuclear free; apartheid South Africa) on this most important of issues rather the standard being related to Gross Domestic Product (GDP).

Market forces alone, bereft of ethical values, cannot solve the intertwined crises of poverty, exclusion, and the environment. Problems have been exacerbated by the current economic measurement in terms of GDP. GDP misleads because it does not incorporate the degradation of nature that accompanies production and consumption in the contemporary world.

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?

I would support that Aotearoa New Zealand work toward Zero Carbon and that we work toward the target of reducing greenhouse gas emission by 40 per cent below 1990 levels by 2030 as proposed by the European Union even given the reasons outlined on the Discussion Document on pp.10-12. The call here is not about "comparison with others" (p.11). What is needed is a total reversal not merely reduction. In this vital issue, we are one human family. Our responsibilities to each other transcend national, racial, economic and ideological differences. We are called to work globally and locally for justice. The principle of solidarity requires of us that we not concern ourselves solely with our own individual lives. We need to be aware of what is going on in the world around us. The human activities which globally accelerate climate change like driving cars, farming, coal production and burning, and deforestation are human activities at the heart of the Aotearoa New Zealand way of life and economy.

How will our contribution affect New Zealanders?

The emphasis on economic advancement must be set within the framework that individual rights, in this case those of New Zealanders, are always experienced within the context of promotion of the common good.

**Principle of the Common Good:** The common good is about respecting the rights and responsibilities of all people. The individual does not have unfettered rights at the expense of others, but nor are individual rights to be subordinated to the needs of the group. Therefore we need moral leadership in climate change issues and a change of heart to build within our country a movement of people who will be part of:

- Diversifying the economy

- Protecting biodiversity
- Sourcing local food production
- Increasing public transport rather than more and more spent on highways

We need to set our contribution alongside

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?

I find the tone of talk in the Discussion Document on pp.13-14, centres only the cost of what is proposed there but not all on the cost of the benefits of addressing greenhouse emissions (mentioned but no costs given on p.15) nor on the cost of not address them. There is an urgent need for the government and cross-party support with support of community groups, scientists, health professions, churches and educators to educate and engage New Zealanders in implications of climate change and how we could make creative changes to our way of living in the face of climate change

**Principle of Participation:** People have a right and a duty to participate in society, seeking together the wellbeing of all, especially the poor and vulnerable. Everyone has the right not to be shut out from participating in those institutions necessary for human fulfilment, such as work, education, and political participation.

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?

If addressed in a holistic way and placed in a framework as being part of this urgent global issue which has local solutions, New Zealanders would committed themselves for the common good to implement the necessary changes in our way of live. I believe progress would be in in all areas. We must address the power of fossil fuel industry. Fossil fuels companies must pay their share of damage – most profitable industries in the world.

New technologies are available, (for example, on the News of the morning, 1 June, fear expressed by electric power company spokesperson that solar panels were having effect on their profits).

Summary

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

Have moral courage to diversify farming to reduce what contributes to about 50 per cent of Aotearoa New Zealand's emissions and construct an adequate public transport system.

Other comments

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

The biggest contribution Aotearoa New Zealand can make is in moral leadership which has the courage to make real change – all we are asking that we work preserve the planet that has worked for about the last 10,000 years

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If we have the willingness, it is possible to restructure our economy quickly to reduce climate emissions – we did it in World War II to support a war (the USA restricted its economy in a matter of months not years to provide the needs for a country at war). We have a moral catastrophe on our hands.

Think beyond the government self-interest of three terms – think of future generations. Be open and honest and protect our economy from those who would want to devour us through the heinous secret TPPA.

Place emphasis on the potential benefits - better health, insulation, leave cars behind