

Consultation on setting New Zealand's post-2020 climate change target



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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?

It must guide New Zealand over the long term in the global transition to a low emissions 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?

As a large per capita carbon contributor, NZ has an obligation to lower carbon levels more comprehensively.

NZ has an almost unique opportunity to invest and incentivise a 90% renewable energy economy.

The government also has a duty to invest in a primary industry that considers climate issues effectively, and not just white and black 'gold' economic production.

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?

The main drive has to come from industry, but a 1% reduction in consumption per annum over a ten year period from the 1990 benchmark should be the minimum. A further 25% reduction - our required contribution - would have to come from industry.

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?

Increasing renewable energy

Investment in solar, geothermal and wind would make an obvious choice.

Incentives for electric vehicles

Technology now makes these vehicles a viable option

R&D into carbon capture technology

Afforestation tax relief and grant incentives

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Summary

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

The groundswell of research and development into low carbon technologies, together with an increasingly pragmatic approach towards low emission economies by progressive governments around the world, should present better case scenarios when cost modelling new technologies.

Other comments

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

The government should provide checks and balances towards a free market that relies on a fossil fuel infrastructure and input intensive monocultures such as dairying.

Simply, incentives (grants, tax relief, public information etc) should be offered for sustainable practices, and disincentives

(divestment) for unsustainable business