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

Copy of your submission

Contact information

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Organisation (if applicable)

Address

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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?
An ambitious contribution. It is not enough for NZ to tow the line here. We need to be and absolutely can be a world leader in this regard. Economically and socially it makes sense to go above and beyond the call of duty here.

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?
Economies do not have "natures" when you think long term as we must for this initiative. The current focuses of our economy need to adapt to a changing world or become increasingly unprofitable as the world moves ahead of us.

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?
Annual consumption decreases must come from increases in efficiency, we are already moving toward warmer houses, more efficient appliances. But that is catching up with the rest of the world. We need to go beyond what the rest of the world is doing in terms of household energy efficiency and become a leader in efficient electronics, water heating, home heating and industrial energy consumption.

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?
Increase in use of renewables and increased energy efficiency for NZ companies and households.

Summary

5. How should New Zealand take into account the future uncertainties of technologies and costs when setting its target?
New Zealand has a terrible reputation for research and development, as a result our GDP per capita has fallen behind countries of similar size and disposition. As with any spending, New Zealand needs to assess specific risks and uncertainties. The biggest uncertainty New Zealand faces is where will our competitive advantage, relevance on a world scale and clean economy image be in the next 50 years if we let uncertainty and cost prevent us from investing in the modernisation of our economy.
Other comments

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