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

Copy of your submission

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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 we make a realistic goal and STICK TO IT. Realistic in the sense that it will have a real impact on keeping global temperature rises below 2 per cent.

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 am truly sick and tired of this government repeatedly telling us that the current state of our emissions and economy mean that we can not make ambitious changes to tackle climate change.
We already have 75% renewable energy? We can and should get this number to too%.
Moving away from subsidising fossil fuel industries and instead focusing this money on green technology could put New Zealand in a very competitive economic position on the international stage.

As an aside, this government has a very warped perception of what the word fair means. On a per capita basis New Zealand is making significantly more than a “fair contribution” to the worlds carbon emissions, but the National government has the gall to act as though we are already doing our fair share in reducing them. This attitude is quite frankly disgusting.

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?
When we are discussing averting major environmental disasters, how is such a question even valid?

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?
1. Focusing on supporting green technology
2. Getting renewables to 100%
3. STOP subsidising fossil fuel industries
4. Stop opening up New Zealand land and oceans to fossil fuel industries
Summary

5. How should New Zealand take into account the future uncertainties of technologies and costs when setting its target?
While there may be uncertainties, climate change is not one of them. We should be concentrating on this certainty instead of pulling excuses out of "uncertainties."

Other comments

6. Is there any further information you wish the Government to consider? Please explain.
The IPC has very clearly demonstrated that we will require a global reduction in carbon emissions of 7% per annum from 2020 onwards to achieve a global temperature rise of 2 degrees Celsius as agreed upon in Copenhagen. New Zealand needs to be committed to at least this level of reduction to ensure a future for our future and our Mokopuna.
The government's inaction on this issue has been appalling.
What we, the people, need from our government is a firm reduction target and a PLAN TO ACHIEVE IT.