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?  Fair and ambitious contribution

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?
   It means we have to be really focused on reducing our non-renewable energy consumption and put a great deal of effort and money into research to deal with animal/methane emissions.

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?
   We have to take a national approach to our environment and limit costly and inappropriate agricultural initiatives such as dairying in dry-land areas. This means a major education programme for future and present farmers so they use their land wisely instead of extracting it to death as though it were a mine.

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?   Impact on biosecurity, ecosystem function and human health

Summary

5. How should New Zealand take into account the future uncertainties of technologies and costs when setting its target?
   By maximising what we do well and not trying to wring every last cent of income out of our environment.

Other comments

6. Is there any further information you wish the Government to consider? Please explain.
   I feel the possibilities of solar power/energy have not been properly considered. We have a basic solar panel on our suburban roof and our power consumption immediately dropped by 33% and remains low. If all New Zealand households in appropriate areas were encouraged to install solar power our consumption of coal and gas in power generation could drop to zero, That should combine with active promotion of electricity-powered vehicles to reduce
gasoline consumption. It would leave us able to concentrate on the methane emissions reduction which needs far more attention and research.