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?
That we are seen as a responsible and proactive nation and can hold our (collective) heads up internationally. That our targets are matched by a genuine honest commitment and we focus on our own obligations to the Planet rather than constantly assessing ourselves against others.

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?
NZ’s economy is going to have to speed up the transition from agricultural commodities to smart, knowledge based earners for both economic viability and sustainability. Progressively remove the exemptions for agriculture and let the market decide whether continually intensifying dairy farming is a smart way to go. I support a 2020 target set 40% below 1990 emissions. CO2 should be a focus.

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?
$1200-1500 per year per household with appropriate targeted compensation from govt for poor households.

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?
Reducing and eventually eliminating exemptions for agriculture.

Summary

5. How should New Zealand take into account the future uncertainties of technologies and costs when setting its target?
Commit to continuing (and increasing) funding for research into emissions reducing technologies.

Other comments

6. Is there any further information you wish the Government to consider? Please explain.
Prove Brian Fallows (NZ Herald 29 May 2015) wrong over his (headline) claim that *Government shrugs off climate change* and start acting intelligently and purposefully to address this issue in NZ's and the world's interest.