

Climate Change Contribution Consultation

Carl Whittleston

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

email: [REDACTED]

New Zealand's Climate Change Target Beyond 2020:

I would like to see the focus of this consultation returned to the outcome intended, which is to significantly reduce the risk of a global temperature rise above 2 degrees celsius (above 1900 levels). My preference is for NZ to be a LEADER in this risk reduction as it is how we can be most effective in this global issue. We have gained much from industries (oil, gas, mining, deforestation, transport and intensive animal farming) that have contributed to the challenge we now face and it is time to play our part.

- I ask you to adopt a **minimum target of a 20% emissions reduction** in net emissions below 1990 levels by 2030.
- Climate change is a threat to our economy and the things it most depends on, like tourism and farming. Our agricultural nation depends on a stable climate. Our farmers will suffer increased droughts and damaging storms and profits will suffer.
- I would suggest that a mechanism is established to ensure that sector by sector emission reduction targets are established, reported on and incentivised at the level of people responsible for managing those sectors. This will mean that heads of industry, government departments, local/regional government and farming co-operatives will need to account for their actions on emissions in a similar way they are accountable for fulfilling their tax duties. To treat it otherwise is to continue with disconnected reporting and action.
- Since 1990 our most significant increase in emissions has been in the transport sector. I ask that emissions reporting and targets be set in the Government Policy Statement (GPS) for transport especially targeting fuel economy standards, taxation of the heavy transport industry to reflect carbon costs, promotion of active and efficient transport modes including electric vehicles. Capital investment in transport should primarily be focussed on emission reductions that allow mobility ie. improving public transport, rail, coastal shipping, mobility services and provision for walking and cycling.
- Please invest in emission reduction actions that have co-benefits in other areas of NZ's well being and contribute toward improving our environment eg. Walking and cycling for health and lower environmental impact. Tighter control over water rights and discharge provision to truly reflect the carbon and environmental cost of intensive farming in areas not suited to it (dairying in arid areas with poor soils).

In summary. I support a bold, committed and accountable target for NZ greenhouse gas emission

reduction. I am prepared to pay for carbon emissions for my personal consumption choices through direct costs (tax) and advocate expenditure of my other taxation toward better controlling emission intense industries and promoting investments that reduce carbon emission and create a healthier population and better environment for us to live in. The environmental and economic cost of failing to lead outweighs any arguments to continue with business as usual.