



CLIMATE
LEADERS
COALITION

ON A MISSION TO REDUCE
EMISSIONS IN NEW ZEALAND

Climate Change Response (Zero Carbon) Amendment Bill

Climate Leaders Coalition Submission to
the Environment Select Committee

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About the Climate Leaders Coalition (CLC)

The Climate Leaders Coalition was launched in July 2018 to promote business leadership and collective action on the issue of climate change.

On a mission to reduce emissions in Aotearoa, as at the beginning of July 2018 104 Chief Executives have signed the joint statement, which commits their organisations to take voluntary action on climate change.

This includes measuring and publicly reporting their greenhouse gas emissions, setting a public emissions reduction target, and working with suppliers to reduce their emissions.

The second part of the statement sees Coalition signatories support the Paris Agreement and New Zealand's commitment to it, the introduction of a Climate Commission and carbon budgets enshrined in law.

The Coalition's goal is to help New Zealand transition to a low emissions economy and, in doing so, create a positive future for New Zealanders, business, and the economy.

The leadership shown by Coalition signatories is helping others make faster progress on decarbonising their businesses. It has also become a community for organisations to collaborate on topics including adaptation and innovation.

Over its first year the Coalition has grown from 60 to more than 100 signatories. Together we make up more than 60% of New Zealand's gross emissions, nearly a third of private sector GDP, and employ more than 170,000 New Zealanders.



Climate Change Statement

For the generations after us, for the country we love, for the viability of our businesses, we are ambitious for action on climate change. If we act now we can forge a path to create a future that is low-emission, positive for our businesses and economy, and inclusive for all New Zealanders. We are committed to playing our part to make that future real. If we don't, our competitiveness is at risk.

We take climate change seriously in our business:

- We measure our greenhouse gas emissions and publicly report on them
- We set a public emissions reduction target consistent with keeping within 2° of warming
- We work with our suppliers to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions

We believe the transition to a low emissions economy is an opportunity to improve New Zealand's prosperity:

- We support the Paris Agreement & New Zealand's commitment to it
- We support the introduction of a climate commission and carbon budgets enshrined in law.

Signatories



Submission on the Zero Carbon Amendment Bill

Support for key aspects of the Bill

The consequences of climate change are one of the biggest long-term risks facing businesses. Organisations who have signed up to the Coalition are already taking action by reducing their emissions and working with their suppliers to reduce theirs. By signing up to the Coalition, our signatory organisations explicitly support the Paris Agreement and New Zealand's commitment to it. Signatories make this real by committing to set an emissions reduction target aligned to staying within 2° of warming. The statement also states explicit support for the introduction of a Climate Commission and for carbon budgets enshrined in law. CLC signatories are therefore in support of these aspects of the Bill.

1.5° Purpose of the Bill

The Coalition's 2017 Climate Change Statement was drafted prior to the release of the IPCC special report on 1.5°, which provided much greater clarity about the difference between a 1.5° and 2° target. In recognition of this, the Coalition has reviewed its statement and a second 'higher-ambition' pledge reflecting a 1.5° ambition, which signatories will have the option of signing up to, will be formally launched at the Coalition's first anniversary event on 24 July 2019.

Predictability and a bipartisan approach

The transition to a low emissions economy creates opportunities for businesses but it will also be challenging. An overall goal of net zero carbon emissions by 2050 will give businesses certainty and confidence to make long-term investment decisions. However, it is imperative that institutions, laws and price signals withstand changes in government in order to facilitate a just transition. Accordingly, there is strong support from CLC signatories for a bipartisan approach to this Bill to ensure a stable and predictable policy pathway towards net zero.

