

## Media advisory

19 September 2019



The independent Interim Climate Change Committee today launched an eight-week, nationwide call for evidence on options available to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

The Interim Committee, as part of its [Terms of Reference](#), is running the call for evidence as foundation work for the proposed Climate Change Commission.

The Interim Climate Change Committee has been established as a precursor to the future Climate Change Commission, expected to be established in late 2019 under the Zero Carbon Bill<sup>1</sup>. The Bill provides a framework to help New Zealand deliver on the objectives of the Paris Agreement.

A key part of the proposed Commission's work will be to advise the Government on emissions budgets. Emissions budgets set the total emissions of all greenhouse gases permitted in the relevant budget period. The Government will set emissions budgets based on the proposed Commission's advice.

The call for evidence runs from Thursday 19 September to Friday 15 November 2019.

Further details, including FAQs and the response form, are online at:

[www.iccc.mfe.govt.nz/what-we-do/call-for-evidence](http://www.iccc.mfe.govt.nz/what-we-do/call-for-evidence)

### **For further information please contact**

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<sup>1</sup> Climate Change Response (Zero Carbon) Amendment Bill:

<http://www.legislation.govt.nz/bill/government/2019/0136/latest/LMS183736.html>.

# FAQs

## Why is the Committee calling for evidence?

We are calling for evidence on options available to reduce greenhouse gas emissions over the period 2022 to 2035 to help the proposed Climate Change Commission advise the Government on emissions budgets. This ensures a broad, robust and transparent approach in developing an evidence base for future decisions.

## Why are we doing this now?

We are running this call for evidence now as foundation work for the proposed Commission so that it can start work immediately as soon as it is in place.

We have been asked to do this through our [Terms of Reference](#). This work is also outlined in our letter to the Minister for Climate Change on [7 May 2019](#).

## What sort of information is the Committee looking for?

We are looking for high-quality, credible data and evidence that will support the proposed Commission's work on emissions budgets. This is likely to include knowledge and evidence of technologies and options to reduce emissions, and their social, cultural, economic and environmental impacts.

We are not looking for opinion or personal views.

## Is this the only chance to engage?

No. This call for evidence is just one part of the work required to develop emissions budgets. Continued broad engagement is vital to understand people's views, concerns and perspectives.

## What if I have already made submissions on similar topics?

If you have already submitted evidence as part of consultation run by Government agencies, such as the Zero Carbon Bill or the Ministry of Transport's Clean Cars Standard and Discount, then we are happy for you to point us to those submissions, noting the key information or material that relates to our call for evidence.

### **What happens to my response after I send it?**

We will use your response to inform our initial work on emissions budgets in advance of the proposed Commission being established. Your response will be assessed by the Interim Climate Change Committee's Secretariat team. If further information is required one of the team members may follow-up with you for further information.

### **Will my information be made public?**

All or part of any written response (including the names of respondents) may be published on our website [www.iccc.mfe.govt.nz](http://www.iccc.mfe.govt.nz). Unless you clearly specify otherwise, we will consider that you have consented to both your name and response being published.

### **What if I don't want my information made public?**

Please be aware that any responses may be captured by the Official Information Act 1982. Please advise us if you have any objection to the release of any information contained in your response, including commercially sensitive information, and in particular which part(s) you consider should be withheld, together with the reason(s) for withholding the information. We will consider all such objections when responding to requests for copies of, and information on, responses to this document under the Official Information Act.

### **Is the Committee just looking for New Zealand evidence?**

The focus of this call is on New Zealand evidence. However, if you have any international material you think is relevant please include it with your response.

### **Is this the only call for evidence the Committee/Commission will be doing?**

This is currently the only call for evidence. It is likely that the proposed Climate Change Commission may undertake calls for evidence in the future to inform its work programme.

### **Where can I find more details?**

You can find more information, including the response form, on our website [here](#). We also recommend that you refer to the Climate Change Response (Zero Carbon) Amendment Bill when considering your answers which can be found [here](#).

### **So what is the Interim Climate Change Committee's work programme?**

The focus of our work programme is on leadership, evidence and connectedness – the critical elements required for the independent proposed Climate Change Commission to start work as soon as it is established.

The proposed Commission will present its first advice in February 2021, for which it will need a range of tools and a broad evidence base. To prepare the proposed Commission's technical

foundations, the Committee is working on:

- Prototyping a sectoral approach, focusing on the transport sector
- Assessing data and modelling needs in the land use sector
- Developing high-quality, economy-wide models and analysis to inform emissions budgets.

We are also building foundations for assessing impacts on iwi/Māori, communities and regions, and across generations. Our priorities, outlined in our letter of 7 May 2019 to the Climate Change Minister, are online [here](#).

### **How can I get in touch with the Interim Climate Change Committee?**

Our full contact information can be found on our website: [www.iccc.mfe.govt.nz](http://www.iccc.mfe.govt.nz).

If you have any specific questions relating to our call for evidence, please email [feedback@iccc.mfe.govt.nz](mailto:feedback@iccc.mfe.govt.nz).