

Zero Carbon Bill Submission Guidelines

What is the Zero Carbon Bill?

New Zealand needs to take urgent action on climate change. International scientists warn that global average temperatures must not exceed 1.5°C since pre-industrial times. This will require all countries to drastically reduce their greenhouse gas emissions.

But New Zealand doesn't have a plan for reducing our emissions. And time is running out.

That's why the Zero Carbon Bill is so important.

The Zero Carbon Bill does three key things:

1. **It sets targets.** The Bill says that New Zealand must reduce its greenhouse emissions by 2050 to a level consistent with the 1.5°C target. The Government is also required to make plans about how it will reach those targets.

The targets currently proposed are:

→ **Net zero by 2050** for 'long-lived' greenhouse gases such as carbon dioxide and nitrous oxide.

→ **10% reduction on 2017 levels by 2030** for methane.

2. **It establishes a Climate Commission.** The Climate Commission will advise the Government on what it must do to meet the targets. The Commission will hold the Government to account by reporting on its progress.
3. **It calls for adaptation.** The Bill says the Government must start making plans for New Zealand to adapt to the effects of climate change that will happen in the future.

How do I make a submission?

There are two ways to submit:

Option 1: Through Parliament's website

Go to www.parliament.nz/zerocarbon and click on 'make a submission' at the very bottom right of the page.

The website will give you instructions on how to fill out the online form.*

Option 2: Post a physical submission

Your submission should have two pages. On the first page you should write your name and where you are from. If you wish to make an oral submission to the Select Committee, you should state that and write your email address AND phone number.

On the second page, write your submission.* Anglican Advocacy has a template that can help you.

The Select Committee's postal address is:

Environment Committee (Zero Carbon Bill submissions)
Parliament Buildings
Wellington 6160

*Please note your name and submission will be uploaded to Parliament's website and be publicly searchable. Your contact details will be kept private.

You can have your say!

The Environment Select Committee is receiving submissions until **16 July 2019**.

It's really important we tell MPs in Parliament to make a strong and effective climate change law.

What should I say in my submission?

It's up to you! But you might like to consider making these points:

- Climate change is a big problem that really matters to me because..... We need to take urgent action.
- I support strong and ambitious greenhouse gas reduction targets. New Zealand needs to do everything it can as soon as possible to limit our contribution to warming to no more than 1.5°C.
- The Bill should not restrict how the courts can respond if the Government breaches the law. (Currently the Bill says all the courts can do is make a declaration that the law has been broken.)
- I support an effective Climate Commission that can hold the Government to account.
- I think it's important the law requires the Government to make plans to adapt to the effects of climate change.

You could add:

- ➔ Why these issues matter to you as a Christian
- ➔ How climate change affects you/your community
- ➔ What climate change means for your/your family's future

Want to encourage other people to have their say?

A video explaining the Zero Carbon Bill, printable submission forms, and a video sermon about climate change by Bishop Eleanor Sanderson are available at:

<http://movementonline.org.nz/climateemission>.