



# Farmers' Quick Guide to the Zero Carbon Bill

The New Zealand Government is asking for feedback on its Zero Carbon Bill. B+LNZ has summarised the Government's proposal to help sheep and beef farmers get involved in the public consultation process.

Use this summary to hone in on the relevant parts, but make sure you do your own research too, before writing your submission – there is a lot of detail beyond this short guide.

**Use this guide to get started, and for more detail you can:**

- read the [consultation document](#); and/or
- attend one of the [public consultation meetings](#).



Make sure you share your feedback in writing, either by using the [B+LNZ submission template](#) through the government's [official form](#).

**The Zero Carbon Bill has four key parts:**

- Establish a climate change commission;
- Set 2050 targets;
- Set emissions budgets (interim targets); and
- Develop adaptation plans.

The key details on these four parts are summarised on the following page.

For support with drafting your submission, contact B+LNZ at:

**Phone: 0800 BEEFLAMB (0800 233 352); or email: [enquiries@beeflambnz.com](mailto:enquiries@beeflambnz.com)**

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## Establish a Climate Change Commission

### *What's being proposed?*

- Establish a Climate Change Commission that is independent of government to provide long term advice outside of the political cycle.
- The Climate Change Commission could have an advisory role, or it could be given power to make decisions – in particular power to make decisions around the New Zealand Emissions Trading Scheme (NZ-ETS).
- The Climate Change Commission would provide advice on:
  - Emission budget levels;
  - Which industries the government should focus their attention on; and
  - Other climate change related issues.

### *Tell Government your thoughts about:*

- What power should the Climate Change Commission be given? Advisory or decision making authority?
- What information should the Commission consider when undertaking its work
- what expertise should commissioners have?

## Set 2050 targets

### *What's being proposed?*

- Set a new 2050 target. Three options are being proposed
  - Reduce net carbon dioxide emissions to zero by 2050
  - Reduce long-lived gas emissions (like carbon dioxide and nitrous oxide) to net zero by 2050. Stabilise short-lived gas emissions (like methane).
  - Net zero emissions across all greenhouse gases.
- The term “net” means total (gross) emissions minus the emissions removed by forestry and other land uses.

### *Tell Government your thoughts about:*

- What target should be set?
- How should New Zealand meet its emissions reduction targets?
- Should the target should be able to change?

## Set emissions budgets (interim targets)

### *What's being proposed?*

- Set five-yearly mini targets to help the government track progress towards to the 2050 target.
- The budgets would be set using a range of considerations. These include:
  - scientific knowledge; technology; economic circumstances; fiscal circumstances; social circumstances; and energy policy.

### *Tell Government your thoughts about:*

- The interim budget timeframes – is every five years too short, too long, or about right?
- Should the budgets be periodically reviewed?
- What information should be considered when setting the budgets.

## Develop adaptation plans

### *What's being proposed?*

- A national climate change risk assessment to inform a national adaptation plan;
- A national adaptation plan so NZ has a planned response to climate change risks;
- Regular review of progress towards implementing the national adaptation plan; and
- An adaptation reporting power.

### *Tell Government your thoughts about:*

- What should the national climate change risk assessment and national adaptation plan include? Think scope, scale and content.
- What role should central government play around adaptation provisions? What role should the Climate Change Commission play?
- How should an adaptation reporting power be used and who it should apply to?