

For a 350 future!

350 Aotearoa's Guidelines for Government Consultation on Emissions Reduction Targets

What's the consultation about?

Between Monday 6th July and Friday 17th July our Government will be visiting nine centres to consult with the public about what their 2020 national emissions reduction target should be. They will take this emissions target to December's United Nations Climate Change Summit in Copenhagen, Denmark, and it will form the basis of their discussions with other countries. We've pasted a table with the details of each Public Meeting below.

What is December's UN Climate Change Summit?

Many are calling this Summit the most important international negotiations ever. World leaders will be discussing the world's response to climate change, and deciding how soon and how fast each country will be reducing their carbon emissions.

What should New Zealand's 2020 emissions reduction target be?

It is important that the emissions reduction target is based on [the best and most recent science](#), and represent a *fair* and *adequate* contribution to the global reductions we are to undertake. In reality, if society wants to stabilise greenhouse gas concentrations at today's level then global emissions should be reduced by 60-80% immediately. Given that such a drastic immediate reduction is impossible, greenhouse gas concentrations will continue to rise over the next few decades.

*This safe and fair target is a **40% reduction in emissions (relative to 1990 levels) by 2020**; it's a solid target that will get the ball rolling and start us on the path back to [350 parts per million \(ppm\)](#).*

Why?

NASA's James Hansen and a team of other scientists recently published a [series of papers](#) showing that we need to cut the amount of carbon in the atmosphere from its current 389ppm to 350 or less if we wish to "preserve a planet similar to that on which civilization developed and to which life on earth is adapted."

Therefore, we need to take actions that will ensure that global greenhouse gas concentrations in the atmosphere are stabilized as far below 350ppm of carbon dioxide equivalent as possible, with temperature increases limited to as far below 1.5 degrees celsius above pre-industrial levels as possible.

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To play our part, New Zealand has a responsibility to reduce 40% of our emissions by 2020. However, how we will reach 40% reduction requires a much wider conversation (for example how to deal with agricultural emissions), which we need to make happen. It is important therefore that at the consultations we call for a 40% by 2020 target, and then make the call for an open and collaborative dialogue on how we will get there. Furthermore, we need to call on our government to ensure that NZ is committed to a fair global agreement. This means NZ supporting those less responsible for this climate crisis- such as our brothers and sisters in the Pacific - with capacity-building, mitigation and adaptation.

An ongoing conversation...

The stability of our climate cannot be negotiable. However, how we go about reaching the target is negotiable. We recognise that calling for 40% by 2020 has massive implications for our society and that it's going to take some serious creativity and innovation to get there. Supporting the Government to set a strong target is just the start of an ongoing national conversation. In the coming months 350 Aotearoa will be facilitating discussion between businesses, politicians and the community to think about how we can pool our resources to reach a goal that reflects what the scientists are telling us will stabilise the climate.

How can I get involved?

Our aim is to mobilise thousands of people across the country to share the 350 vision, and give the Government a strong mandate to take a 40% by 2020 target to Copenhagen.

You can:

- Join the movement at www.350.org.nz
- Sign up at www.signon.org.nz to add your own voice to the 40% by 2020 call!
- Register to attend the closest Public Meeting yourself (see the table below), or send a representative from your group, and carry with you the 350ppm / 40% by 2020 message! To register, visit www.climatechange.govt.nz/survey/x09nz2020register.htm
- Not everyone will be able to attend the meetings... but we still need people to send the Government their message! So we are encouraging people to write a short letter. These should be sent to Nick Smith, Minister for Climate Change and Minister for the Environment (nick.smith@parliament.govt.nz) and John Key, Prime Minister (john.key@parliament.govt.nz) by July 31st. Even better, deliver them to Government staff at the Public Meetings themselves (see the table below)!
- Spread the word! Tell other individuals / groups / schools / organisations and businesses in your area about 350, 40% by 2020, and encourage them to add their voice to the 350ppm / 40% by 2020 call. Watch out for a 350 video coming out in the next few days.

PUBLIC MEETINGS

Date	Location	Time	Venue	Address
Mon 6 July	Wellington	7.30 - 9pm	Oceania Room, Te Papa	Cable Street, Wellington
Tues 7 July	Auckland	7.30 - 9pm	Princes Ballroom B & C Hotel Hyatt, Regency Auckland	Cnr Princes St & Waterloo Quadrant, Auckland Central
Wed 8 July	Christchurch	7.30 - 9pm	Hall C, Convention Centre	Kilmore Street
Thurs 9 July	Dunedin	7.30 - 9pm	Clifford Skeggs Gallery, Dunedin Centre	1 Harrop Street, Dunedin
Fri 10 July	Queenstown	7.30 - 9pm	Icon Room, Heritage Hotel	91 Fernhill Drive, Queenstown
Mon 13 July	Hamilton	7.30 - 9pm	Waikato Room, Sky City Hamilton	346 Victoria Street, Hamilton
Tues 14 July	New Plymouth	7.30 - 9pm	Conference Room, Plymouth International	Cnr Courtenay & Leach Streets, New Plymouth
Wed 15 July	Napier	7.30 - 9pm	Ocean Suite, East Pier	Hardinge Road, Ahuriri, Napier
Fri 17 July	Nelson	7.30 - 9pm	Wamea Room, Rutherford Hotel	Trafalgar Square, Nelson