

Resource strategy consultation questionnaire

The Government has developed a draft Resource Strategy for minerals and petroleum.

The draft Resource Strategy is a 10-year strategy that articulates the Government's long term vision for the minerals and petroleum sector in New Zealand and supports the transition to a low emissions future and a productive, sustainable and inclusive economy.

The draft Resource Strategy was developed with the input of Treaty partners and other interested parties. It is now out for public consultation to provide everyone with the opportunity to discuss how New Zealand can sustainably derive value from its petroleum and minerals resources.

The Resource Strategy will be used to inform a review of the Crown Minerals Act 1991. The review of the legislation is to ensure it is fit for purpose to meet the needs of all New Zealanders and a discussion document is due to be released in late 2019.

Submissions on the Resource strategy open on August 27, 2019 and will close at 5pm Friday 20 September, 2019.

<https://www.mbie.govt.nz/building-and-energy/energy-and-natural-resources/development-of-a-resource-strategy/resource-strategy-consultation-questionnaire/>

LOW CARBON KAPITI response

Vision

Draft vision:

"A world-leading minerals and petroleum sector that delivers value for New Zealanders, both now and in the future, in an environmentally and socially responsible way."

Do you agree with this vision?

Strongly disagree

Why?

Fossil fuels have no future. The strategy should explicitly exclude fossil fuels or explicitly set out a different vision for them - namely as a sunset industry.

What is your vision for the minerals and petroleum sector in New Zealand?

That the extraction of fossil fuels is halted entirely within 20 years. That other minerals are extracted with the absolute minimum of environmental impacts and that minerals that have already been extracted are reused to stretch out the finite supply of mineral resources still residing in the Earth's crust for as long as possible/indefinitely.

How can New Zealand sustainably derive value from its petroleum and minerals resources?

See above. There is nothing sustainable about mineral extraction as reserves are finite, as is the atmosphere's, oceans' and biosphere's capacity to absorb greenhouse gases and other pollution. This is a seemingly intractable problem with modern civilisation, however we can buy ourselves time to figure

something out by halting fossil fuel extraction, reusing minerals we have already extracted and conserving remaining resources.

Objectives for the minerals and petroleum sector

Objective for a sector that: “Responsibly delivers value for New Zealand (a) Supporting a productive, sustainable and inclusive economy (b) Supporting New Zealand's transition to a carbon neutral economy”.

Strongly agree

WHY?

These are all critical values and (b) if correctly interpreted would necessarily mean ending fossil fuel extraction and use and targeting the use of other mineral resources to support the transition.

Objective for a sector that: “Is productive and innovative”.

Neither agree nor disagree

WHY?

It should not be productive of fossil fuels. Productivity of other minerals is dubious also if they are only going to be wasted sooner or later, as is presently the case.

Objective for a sector that: “Is effectively regulated”.

Strongly agree

Why?

Regulation is critical to phase out fossil fuel extraction and to prevent/minimise environmental impacts both at the time of extraction and the ongoing impacts.

Are there any other objectives for the minerals and petroleum sector that you would like us to consider in the strategy?

To end the extraction of fossil fuels completely within 20 years starting the phase-out now.

Guiding principles

Do you agree or disagree with each of the following principles to guide everyone (including the Crown and industry)?

Principle: The environment, ecosystems, and biodiversity are respected now and in the long term.

Strongly agree

Principle: Māori cultural interests are understood and respected.

Strongly agree

Principle: Support the transition to a carbon neutral economy by 2050.

Strongly agree

WHY?

If not sooner - 2040 should be the aim.

Principle: The impact on people, communities and regions are managed in a just and inclusive way.

Strongly agree

Principle: Support a circular economy by meeting resource needs through resource efficiency, recycling and reuse.

Strongly agree

Do you agree or disagree with each of the following principles for the *Crown*?

Principle: The Crown honours its duty towards Māori as a Treaty partner, adheres to the Principles of the Treaty of Waitangi and its duty to meet settlement commitments.

Strongly agree

Principle: The Crown receives a fair financial return for its minerals and petroleum.

Strongly agree

Why?

This is especially critical as it is inevitable that the Crown will be left to deal with the environmental impacts of these extractive activities and their downstream impacts long after the companies' extracting the resources have gone. Furthermore the higher the costs of extracting virgin resources, the greater incentive there is to reuse minerals that have already been extracted.

Principle: The Crown regulates in a way that is fair, transparent, reasonable and proportionate.

Strongly agree

Principle: The Crown honours the rights of current permit holders to continue production or exploration activities under existing permits.

Strongly disagree

WHY?

The climate crisis demands a rapid phase out of fossil fuels, such leniency towards activities we know threatens the survival of countless species and our civilisation cannot be justified.

Principle: The Crown makes policy decisions based on the best evidence, and accounting for the foreseeable need for minerals and petroleum, both now and for future generations.

Strongly agree

Principle: The Crown proactively engages and consults with relevant stakeholders and decisions are communicated in a clear and transparent way.

Strongly agree

Action areas

Do you agree or disagree with each of the following Action Areas for the Government?

Action Area: Modernising the Crown Minerals Act

Strongly agree

What future actions would you like us to consider under this Action Area?

**Setting an end date for existing fossil fuel exploration and extraction permits.
Increasing penalties for breaches of environmental requirements.**

Action Area: Securing affordable resources to meet our minerals and energy needs

Neither agree nor disagree

WHY?

Affordability must be thought of holistically, including all the lifecycle impacts and costs transferred to the future.

Action Area: Improving Treaty partnership

Strongly agree

Action Area: Improving stakeholder and community engagement

Neither agree nor disagree

WHY?

Engagement can be used as a ruse to gain social license for fundamentally harmful and unsustainable activities. No amount of stakeholder engagement will remedy the effects of ongoing fossil fuel extraction.

Action Area: Improving industry compliance

Strongly agree

Action Area: Research and investment in better mining and resource use

Agree