

# Resource Management Amendment Bill

## Climate Justice Taranaki submission to the Parliamentary Environment Committee

7 November 2019

1. Climate change is a matter of national importance and must be at the core of every resource based decision. Add “the protection of our life-supporting climate and climate change mitigation and adaptation” to section 6 of the Resource Management Act 1991.
2. Councils and consent authorities must consider the effects on climate change of greenhouse gas discharge into the air when making rules and assessing consent applications. Sections 70A and 104E of the RMA currently forbid this. They should be either repealed entirely, or revised while keeping the ability of councils and consent authorities to consider “*the extent that the use and development of renewable energy enables a reduction in the discharge into air of greenhouse gases...*”
3. The Zero Carbon Bill seeks to set emissions budgets and reduction plans to help limit global average temperature increase to 1.5° Celsius above pre-industrial levels. To make this happen, sections 68 and 76 of the RMA need to be expanded to require regional and district rules to take into account emissions targets, plans and budgets.
4. To reduce barriers against tree protection, repeal sections 76(4A) to (4D) of the RMA concerning district rules.