

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday 7 February 2022 18:10
To: CARBON BUDGET CONSULTATION
Subject: Consultation on Carbon Budget

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To whom it may concern,

I would like to share my concerns and hopes in relation to the upcoming Carbon Budgets being prepared to shape Ireland's response to the ongoing climate crisis.

I believe any carbon budget needs to take into account the following:

1. Ireland is starting late. We are already behind where we should be. This is not the time for more prevaricating or kicking the can down the road. Carbon budgets from now should set out how to achieve our target of net zero by 2050 and ensure we are on our way by 2030 (this will not be achieved by the current proposed. I support Prof. Barry McMullin of Dublin City University, who estimates that to meet the 7.6pc average reduction (as per a 2019 report from the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)), the carbon budgets should be reduced by an additional 41 megatonnes (from the proposed 495 megatonnes to 454 megatonnes).
2. These small additional reductions would still be less than our "fair share" of global effort given our historically high emissions. We need to ensure not only that we reduce our emissions rapidly and without delay, but also that we do better on climate justice and a just transition. This should include new and additional funding for developing countries in tackling the worst impacts of climate change.
3. "Forward counting" of forestry for example should not be included or allowed as a way of blurring the figures or in calculating the budgets. It is essential that the megatonne amount in each Carbon Budget relates only to emissions and removals measurable within the time period of that budget.
4. The need to balance the two budgets: that is between the first and second carbon budgets. It makes no sense to "backload" the budget to 2025-2030. This will only make things harder and less likely to be achieved. Now is the time for action - we have delayed long enough!

Kind regards,
[REDACTED]