



one point zero

Mankind's Greatest Challenge: A Good Life within our ONE Planet's Means

'Zero Carbon': Copying the UK: NZ's Peril. The World's Loss.

Maybe Less Haste. More Strategic Thought

This submission focuses on setting out why 'Following the UK' with a similar '**Zero Carbon**' approach, is the, 'absolutely wrong' way to go.

In public documents, The Minister acknowledges that this '**Zero Carbon**' 'vision', (or rather goal), and associated metrics / mechanisms are a slightly modified 'cut and paste' from the UK's 2008 Climate Change Act.

It is well known: NZ and UK are like 'chalk and cheese' as far as demographics, geography, economies, etc. However, in the context of this submission, the most significant difference is in the two nations', Biocapacity Balance Sheets.

In this regard New Zealand is close to '*Best of Breed*', and the UK, is far down the rankings and near 'Worst of Breed'.

'*Best of Breed*' players, need '*Best of Breed*' metrics, performance goals, and strategies, if they want to further enhance their position. It is not too dissimilar to the different life metrics, diets, and performance goals one needs, depending if one is obese, average, or a competitive athlete? Continuing the analogy, NZ and the UK are closer to these extremes than they are to the average or each other.

Yes, the UK has made some notable emission progress, that I am sure have resulted from 2008 Act and its Carbon management approach. In 2008, the UK was way behind NZ, in having 'easy to solve', high emission, polluters, and still has 'easier to solve' fruits to pick. '**Zero Carbon**' is ideally suited for nations, who have serious emissions problems and very low biocapacity resource to 'work with'. NZ isn't in that category.

Ten years on from 2008 the world is much more informed, and yet as the June 2018 BP World Energy report indicates: 'Very little' progress has been made on the Sustainability

problem. Today it is a well-accepted that 'The World' is more than 70% in **Biocapacity Deficit!** 1970 was the last time 'we' were in '*Biocapacity Balance*,' and even with all the 'good work' and promises, there is no evidence of arresting the **Biocapacity Deficit** increase trend.

It is clear the world is stuck in its 'ineffective metric' and the Non-Transformational strategies, that are being used today.

UK's Zero Carbon Distracting NZ's from Pursuing Excellence

Given this **chronic Global Biocapacity Deficit** situation, and the increasing acuteness of Climate Change symptoms, the '*Best of Breed*' almost have an obligatory responsibility to humanity to use their strong biocapacity balance sheets to push their 'excellence exploration' envelope: To search for the best metrics, the best standard, and hone transformational strategies around them that are best suited for a vital, One Planet, world.

This responsibility should fall into the realms of those few nations who firstly, have significant bio capacity, secondly, have biocapacity that is surplus to their own needs, and thirdly, who are 'high' on the *UN Human Development Index* scale. The world needs innovation and courageous transformational leadership from these nations.

Defying these imperatives and pursuing a '**Zero Carbon**' path encourages NZ to essentially turn to 'looking after itself', and turning its back on this innovation, and leadership excellence, challenge. The problem with this, and then also using the mismatched, 'worst of breed' metrics and strategies is that it encourages, 'complacency and lethargy', with the adoption of 'relatively easy to achieve' goals. Goals that don't challenge seemingly impossible standards and progressively provide a way forward to vitally reducing the current humanity average Biocapacity Demand metric. This in a time where the need for 'new excellence', transformational leadership has never been more critical.

Beyond 'Easy' Zero Carbon: A 'Best of Breed' Focus

Given the huge Biocapacity Deficit, and its direct connection to Climate Change, the growing Wealth Divide, Global Debt, and the Intergenerational Moral Debt, it should be

crystal clear that ownership and control of Biocapacity will increasingly become the new 'wealth currency' of The World.

In the unravelling of this latent currency, it is not unrealistic to expect that the benchmark will be set at a 'Biocapacity per Capita' standard that ensures all of humanity 'fit' into the world's available biocapacity. Surely, a Moral and Climate Change imperative?

Today, NZ's biocapacity demand per capita (Net of Imports and Exports) is almost three times that 'maximum standard', yet this same bio capacity demand is a mere 50% of NZ's biocapacity. The picture for Canada and, Australia is not too dissimilar, except that both nations have much higher, per capita biocapacity, demands, and so their challenge to reach below the standard will be more significant than NZ's

Within this picture, '**Zero Carbon**' for NZ can be relatively easily achieved. The Government's '**Zero Carbon**' briefing papers, subtly point to this fact. The goal is particularly 'easy' to achieve with the **One Point Zero** recommendation (other submissions) to move to a more appropriate '*Consumption*' based Carbon accounting basis. (Vs The 'Territorial' basis.)

All this means that In the process, NZ will in all likelihood not significantly reduce its Biocapacity per capita demand down towards the '*Best of Breed*', benchmark, that is required for a '**One Planet, Zero Deficit**', world: '**The Ultimate Goal**'.

Yes, achieving THAT '**Ultimate Goal**' is extremely challenging, but a nation like Uruguay, which is not too dissimilar in many ways to NZ, is almost half the way there, with its transformational, trend beating, trajectory.

Beyond the Comfortable: The Transformation Imperative

If one agrees with the unfolding global picture painted above, then it is in NZ's best strategic interest to move onto a truly *transformational course* that strives to go below the **Maximum Biocapacity per Capita**, standard above, by 2050.

Most importantly for NZ, in this pursuit, the Nation will be positioning itself to have maximum '*Surplus Biocapacity*' for the long road ahead to a vital, '**One Planet**', **No Biocapacity Deficit**, world. As laid out above, this '*Surplus Biocapacity*' will become the source of enormous, '*new currency wealth*', and '*new economic power*', surely making for the best strategic and self-preservation choice for NZ?

Further: In NZ transforming itself so it's per capita demand on biocapacity is below this Global Average Limit, it will build a robust, '2050 ready', socio-economic system that leads the world in example, and moral standing.

There is no doubt that pursuit of this world average standard, will contribute significantly to expanding the '*Best of Breed*' limits, and provide spinoff benefits for many struggling nations. Benefits that enable them to leapfrog their challenges and speed up, the collective solution of 'our' chronic, Global Biocapacity Deficit.

Beyond the Climate Change agenda, as laid out in another **One Point Zero** submission on this NZ transformation opportunity: The resultant, transformed socio-economic system will almost certainly also address the current socio-economic 'flaws' and are part of the new Government's stated, focus priorities.

The '**Zero Carbon**' proposal is both outdated and inappropriate for NZ's *Biocapacity Balance Sheet*. Further, in helping 'blind' NZ to the Transformational Path opportunity above, it compromises NZ's preparation for the real 2050 world that awaits, and NZ's 'destined' role in assisting solve the **Global Biocapacity Deficit** agenda.

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Without Nature We are Nothing..!


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'Zero Carbon', has the potential

It becomes then clear, that the 'Ultimate Goal' of The World, and that for any nation must move be a Biocapacity related metric, beyond GDP, or any other 'Ultimate Goal' metric used today. Using this moral imperative metric, nations will be forced to transform from the current economic, financial wealth centred socio-economic System to Biocapacity centred, socio-economic systems. This is where the *'Best of Breed'* should be exploring.

With a low biocapacity, most countries have huge populations to feed and a true **'Zero Carbon'** goal is essentially impossible. Biocapacity has to be imported. This can be done through importing NZ goods, and or through buying international Carbon Credits. To many, this may be judged as cheating the books, but in their low biocapacity position, these nations 'have to cheat'. But here is where the **FFF**, Territorial based accounting provides convenient cover. By using this basis for accounting none of the imported Biocapacity is debited to their Carbon balance sheet. So it is theoretically possible that these countries could achieve a **'Zero Carbon'** goal, by importing all their needs.

The 'Territorial' basis for accounting

The facts are that the UK as a nation of people need more than four UK equivalents to be ecologically self-sustainable. NZ on the other hand needs only half of NZ to ecologically sustain its population.

The **'Zero Carbon'** approach, using Territorial accounting rather than Consumption based accounting stands to

They are on the offensive, we should be leading on our strength

The World needs a real Metric that is related to A true Regenerative

This is not what NZ nor the world needs from NZ. It potentially drags the nation back towards competing in the wrong peer group with the wrong metric, with easy wins and over inflated, bragging potential. The comfort of this approach

'Best of Breed' status, yet provide the basis .

The nett result is that , that category, and who are large exporters of biocapacity.

Using 2009 metrics, even if they have been 'New Zealand-ised', is working in the past and a retrograde move. One also playing to New Zealand's weakness and the Western nation's advantage. .