



Dublin Friends of the Earth
c/o Friends of the Earth Ireland
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08 February 2022

Climate Division – Carbon Budgets
Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications,
29-31 Adelaide Road,
Dublin,
D02 X285

Email: carbonbudgetconsultation@decc.gov.ie

Re: Public Consultation on Carbon Budgets

Dear Minister Ryan,

Dublin Friends of the Earth (DFoE) is an active group of volunteers who work together to address urgent environmental issues Dublin, Ireland and globally. We are the volunteering arm of Friends of the Earth Ireland and focus on general climate action issues as well as pursuing environmentally related projects as the need arises.

- The United Nations has stated that a global average reduction of emissions of 7.6% yearly until 2030 for us to stay under a 1.5 degree celsius level of warming. In the Irish Programme for Government, 7% was promised. The Climate Change Advisory Council has recommended less than 6%. We are a wealthy country and can afford to go higher than 7.6%.
- We have no time to waste. Because Ireland ignored the science on climate change over the last three decades, it is critical that we do not leave all the heavy lifting to the second 5 year term (2026 to 2030), we need to do this in the first 18 months of the current 5 year term.

- The carbon budgets should only count emissions and removals in the relevant 5-year period. Planting a tree today will only sequester carbon from 2030 onwards so ‘new’ forestry/woodland must not be considered part of any pre 2030 budget.
- We believe the Minister should revise the proposed Carbon Budgets so that they take account of Articles 2 and 4(1) of the Paris Agreement, including ‘equity’ and “common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capacities”.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit to this public consultation - we look forward to a positive outcome in due course.

Yours faithfully,

Zero Carbon Team

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