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Dear Minister,

Regarding the CCAC proposal for three economy-wide carbon budgets for the period 2021-2035 it is disappointing to read that the target does not include emissions from international aviation or shipping.

Of greater concern is the seeming lack of vision required to tackle the challenge we face as a society. While it is accepted that it is challenging to enact the changes required and that some sectors of society will be disproportionately affected it is clear from the report that local politics and more pointedly the security of sitting TDs seats has shaped the proposed carbon budgets.

Agriculture is an area where there is huge potential for transformational change which would be of great benefit to both the Agri-food sector and wider society. The Agri-food sector made up only 6.7% of GNI in 2017 and yet it accounts for 32.6% of emissions (Conefrey, 2018). Moreover, it is a sector that is chronically dependent on subsidies (Conefrey, 2018).

In order to arrest the rise in temperatures and the attendant inequality we need to radically change the way we view the economic growth paradigm (Hickel *et al.*, 2021).

Politicians underestimate people's appetite for radical change.

Yours sincerely,
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References

Conefrey, T. (2018) 'Irish Agriculture: Economic Impact and Current Challenges', p. 19.

Hickel, J. *et al.* (2021) 'Urgent need for post-growth climate mitigation scenarios', *Nature Energy*, 6(8), pp. 766–768. doi:10.1038/s41560-021-00884-9.