

ETS – WHERE ARE WE AT?

Nicky Wagner

National List MP for Christchurch Central, Chair of the Bluegreens Caucus Committee, and Deputy Chair of the Environment Select Committee

National is committed to combating climate change and reducing New Zealand's greenhouse gas emissions.

Our approach is about New Zealand doing its fair share and protecting our clean green reputation. This in turn helps New Zealand's export industries and Kiwi jobs. But we're also realistic about the costs and what a small country like New Zealand can do.

Our decision to proceed with a moderate and pragmatic Emissions Trading Scheme has seen the costs for consumers and businesses halved, and our increased support for trade-exposed industries has protected their competitiveness.

Great progress is being made already. The ETS is encouraging the planting of trees, the building of renewable energy over thermal, and investment in energy efficiency. Its providing incentives for businesses and households to be more energy efficient and to use less carbon over time.

But it's important we do not just view the challenge of climate change as a cost.

There are also economic opportunities. That's why National established the Advisory Group on Green Growth and has helped drive the Global Research Alliance on Agricultural Greenhouse Gases. As a result of the ETS, we're seeing more investment into green business and ways to reduce emissions, in households, businesses, and on the farm.

But we can always do more.

Join Nicky Wagner MP as she discusses where the ETS is at, how it impacts farmers and the agriculture sector, and what the future holds.

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