

Environment, Climate Change and Land Reform Committee
Climate Change (Emissions Reduction Targets) (Scotland) Bill
SUBMISSION FROM SCOTTISH ENTERPRISE

Scottish Enterprise HQ
Atrium Court
50 Waterloo Street
Glasgow
G2 6HQ
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Environment, Climate Change and Land Reform Committee
Room T3.40
The Scottish Parliament
Edinburgh
EH99 1SP

Dear Sir/Madam

Thank you for giving Scottish Enterprise the opportunity to respond to the Climate Change (Emissions Reduction Targets) (Scotland) Bill. Scottish Enterprise recognises the level of ambition that the Scottish Government has when it comes to setting and achieving climate change targets, and we are committed to helping the Scottish Government achieve these targets.

The proposed targets are extremely ambitious, and as the UK Committee on Climate Change suggest that with sustained policy effort, ensuring planning certainty for businesses consumers and the public sector the targets may be achievable. Industry undoubtedly has a full role to play but operates within the context set by government and responds to consumer demand.

As such we feel that the Scottish Government will need to consider that significant government support is likely to be required for industry to drive innovation and enable

Scotland to achieve such targets. Along with support for innovation it is likely that Scotland will also require additional funding for the development of and speedy deployment of infrastructure and technologies to enable the targets to be reached including, but not exclusively, carbon capture and storage.

Scottish Enterprise delivers and supports several projects with industry, partners and companies that contribute to achieving a reduction in carbon emissions. These projects mainly centre around energy, as well as innovation, and investment projects. Our dedicated sustainability specialists and Scottish Manufacturing Advisory Services practitioners help companies to identify efficiency and associated carbon savings. Last year our work delivered savings of 259,443 tonnes of CO₂, which exceeded our Business Plan target for 2017-18, set in agreement with the Scottish Government by just under 40,000 tonnes of CO₂.

Scottish Enterprise have also been working hard to reduce emissions from our own facilities, and last year we managed to reduce our operational emissions by around 1,159 tonnes of CO₂, which exceeded our target for 2017-18. We have been measuring our operational emissions since 2009-10 and have delivered a number of projects during this time to reduce both travel and energy emissions. We raise awareness with our colleagues throughout the year and participate in Climate Change Scotland week, and Earth Hour each year.

As already recognised, by the Scottish Government, the proposed 90% target is at the limit of feasibility – even more so now that the proposed targets include international aviation and shipping, and must be achieved through domestic effort alone. Without support for industry it seems plausible that the targets may be challenging to achieve, and indeed the net -zero emissions target may continue to become aspirational rather than achievable. We support the use of the UK Committee on Climate Change to advise the Scottish Government, and welcome the powers to adjust the targets, particularly so that cognisance can be made on the state of the economy, as well as current scientific understanding.

As always Scottish Enterprise is here to support the Scottish Government in achieving their targets and ambitions while at the same time contributing to the inclusive growth of Scotland's economy. We look forward to working with the Scottish Government to make our

contribution to the successful realisation of the ambitions of the Climate Change (Emissions Reduction Targets) (Scotland) Bill through our role in the delivery of inclusive economic growth in Scotland.

Thank you once again for giving SE the opportunity to contribute to this consultation process.