

18 November 2022

Ministry for the Environment
PO Box 10362
Wellington 6143

Tasman District Council's submission to the Government's Agricultural Emissions Pricing (AEP) proposals.

Tasman District Council (the Council) supports the collaborative approach and process that has been undertaken by He Waka Eke Noa (Government, Iwi and Primary Sector Partners).

The Council encourages the Government to adopt the recommendations made by He Waka Eke Noa in May 2022, i.e. that a farm-level, split-gas levy pricing system is implemented as an alternative to the New Zealand Emissions Trading Scheme.

Amending the He Waka Eke Noa recommendations undermines the collaborative process that the Government was part of and is not in the spirit of partnership.

Whilst local government does not play a direct role in the pricing process, the Council anticipates that landowners will need support with understanding the pricing calculations, reporting requirements and mitigation options available. This workload is likely to be picked up by the Council's catchment facilitators and incorporated as a module into the farm plans. The cost of resourcing four catchment facilitators has been met in the short term by the Ministry of the Environment but will need to be further resourced beyond 2025. If further funding is not provided by the Government, this cost will be borne by ratepayers.

Finally, there is likely to be an economic impact, primarily on sheep, beef and deer farms which may have repercussions for the regional economy. The Council is interested in understanding these implications, but notes that the consultation document lacked details on this.

Yours sincerely



Kim Drummond

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