

Jane White <Jane.White@climateieb.govt.nz> 12/5/2024 10:47 PM

Hi Meredith have you read the findings of the methane panel? Do you understand why they say the target could be lower if countries do less to reduce methane? is that we need to maintain a certain proportion of the world's overall methane production?

Meredith Davis <Meredith.Davis@mfe.govt.nz> 12/5/2024 10:51 PM

Hi Jane this is how it was described to Ministers in BRF-5634:

1. In general, *the higher the emissions from the rest of world* (particularly of methane itself) *New Zealand must reduce biogenic methane by less to achieve no additional warming in 2050*. This is because if global methane concentrations are rising, the radiative forcing caused by every tonne of methane emitted by New Zealand decreases. However, this is not a strict relationship and there are some scenarios where greater reductions of emissions are required even with higher global emissions[1].

[1] For example, in scenario SSP4-3.4 it is assumed there will be burning of large quantities of biomass that could extend the lifetime of methane, and therefore require greater reductions to achieve no additional warming than SSP1-2.6, which is likely to limit global temperature rise to below 2°C by the end of the century.

Meredith Davis <Meredith.Davis@mfe.govt.nz> 12/5/2024 10:52 PM

If that helps

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Thanks Meredith