



## Editorial & letters

### Climate change

A *Herald* editorial headlined “Offshore oil eclipsed by fracking breakthrough” missed the points made by the New Zealand Youth Delegation that climate change is a global emergency demanding urgent and drastic action.

The main issue with fracking is not local effects but the greenhouse-gas emissions and, ultimately, lethal long-lasting carbon dioxide released from burning fuel.

The International Energy Agency is warning that the world is headed for irreversible climate change in five years, and that if fossil-fuel infrastructure is not rapidly changed, the world will lose the chance to avoid this change.

New Zealand must pull its weight and rapidly reduce its greenhouse-gas emissions, not export an increase.

The energy independence and job creation we seek must be in renewable energy. Otherwise, the price is destroying the stable climate on which our farming fortunes, prosperity and good health rely.

How does exploiting trillions of barrels of oil stop the world exhausting its dwindling meagre remaining carbon budget necessary to avoid runaway change?

*Dr Scott Metcalfe,  
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Responding to NZ Herald 17 December 2012

[http://www.nzherald.co.nz/opinion/news/article.cfm?c\\_id=466&objectid=10854476](http://www.nzherald.co.nz/opinion/news/article.cfm?c_id=466&objectid=10854476)

Title submitted by OraTaiao as ‘Less fracking and oil, not more’, on climate change issues raised by the NZ Youth Delegation and others in earlier editions of the NZ Herald

See <http://www.guardian.co.uk/environment/2011/nov/09/fossil-fuel-infrastructure-climate-change>