

## Cleener and Greener...Why Not?

Top Level Report

### Which statement is right for you?

n = 2471

I have never heard of Biofuels (i.e. bioethanol or biodiesel)		537 21.73%
I have heard of Biofuels but don't know much about them		1277 51.68%
I have heard of Biofuels and know a bit about them		605 24.48%
I have heard of Biofuels and know a lot about them		52 2.10%

### In making the decision whether to use petrol or diesel with biofuel added, how important to you are each of the following attributes?

n = 2377

	<i>Not at all important</i>	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	<i>Very important</i>
Lower CO2 emissions therefore produce less greenhouse gases		1% (34)	1% (32)	3% (68)	7% (168)	14% (339)	21% (509)	51% (1222)	
Locally produced so reduces our dependence on imports		1% (21)	1% (29)	2% (59)	7% (159)	12% (294)	21% (491)	56% (1321)	
They have been proven safe and reliable in other countries		0% (10)	0% (9)	2% (41)	6% (136)	13% (311)	24% (572)	54% (1290)	
Cars don't need to be modified		1% (16)	1% (17)	2% (39)	5% (119)	10% (243)	21% (489)	61% (1443)	
Biofuels don't affect a car's performance		1% (16)	1% (21)	3% (63)	6% (132)	13% (319)	22% (533)	54% (1284)	
We can get it at our normal petrol pump		0% (10)	1% (14)	2% (39)	4% (86)	9% (221)	21% (497)	63% (1499)	

### And straight to the key question!

If you drove up to your usual petrol station tomorrow morning to fill up and, right next to your pump was another pump offering the biofuel blend alternative, how likely would you be to try it?

n = 2377

No way I would even consider it		16 0.67%
It would cross my mind but I'd probably use my usual fuel		119 5.01%
Not sure, maybe, maybe not		308 12.96%

Yes, I'd probably try the biofuel blend		1011 42.53%
Yes, I'd definitely use the biofuel blend		923 38.83%

You have said that you wouldn't be likely to use the biofuel blend (tomorrow, at least!). n = 141

If you read/heard more about biofuel and everything we've told you here was shown to be reliable, would this change your mind?

Yes, I'd start using it		86 60.99%
No, it wouldn't make any difference		13 9.22%
Don't know/other		42 29.79%

If you were going to read more about biofuels, which of the following sources of information do you think would be the most trustworthy? n = 2351

	<i>Not very trustworthy</i>	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	<i>Very trustworthy</i>
Information from the Automobile Association (AA)		1% (18)	1% (24)	2% (44)	6% (137)	14% (340)	33% (776)	43% (1002)	
Information on TV		3% (61)	7% (162)	13% (313)	30% (717)	30% (698)	11% (253)	5% (110)	
Information in newspapers		2% (38)	5% (122)	13% (307)	29% (674)	30% (697)	15% (353)	5% (128)	
Information put out by the Government		6% (146)	6% (142)	12% (281)	21% (499)	25% (588)	19% (446)	10% (226)	
Information circulated by the petrol retailers (like BP, Mobil, Shell, Caltex etc)		12% (283)	13% (310)	16% (372)	21% (497)	17% (401)	13% (295)	7% (168)	



Do you think the Government should take an active role in ensuring biofuels are made available in New Zealand? n = 2368

Yes		2198 92.82%
No		46 1.94%
Don't know/Other		124 5.24%

**Would you like to send your own comment to these organisations about biofuels?**

n = 2369

Please note that if you wish to pass on your comment, you also need to provide your name and contact details so that these groups have the 'right of reply'.

<b>Yes, I would like to make a comment and am comfortable to provide my name and contact details</b>		415 17.52%
<b>No thanks, I don't want to comment</b>		1954 82.48%

Find a word or phrase:

**Enter your comments here...**

n = 401

I think it is important for NZ to be looking at alternatives for fuel - we are too dependant on international fuel companies and their prices. If there are cheaper, efficient ways then we should be actively seeking them.

If there is proven evidence of this use in other countries, then there should be no reason why our government, whomever that might be, should not provide legislation for the product to be produced in NZ. There is no doubt petrol companies would not welcome the competition, however, it has a monopoly throughout the world, so should not be concerned about a small player, at the moment.

I left NZ in 1971 for better employment opportunities overseas. I have lived and worked in Australia, Europe and the UK and have only recently returned to NZ for family reasons. In so many key areas the state of my beloved country and the direction in which it has moved and appears to be rapidly heading, is of greatest concern. In the important field of energy resource management, conservation and developemnt, I'm afraid it sadly falls far behind the rest of those countries with whom we like to compare ourselves. The garbage churned out by certain members of our government is at the most embarassing and gives very little hope except perhaps, as a limitless initial raw material source for the production of New Zealand's own biofuel supply.

i have only heard of bio fuels and dont know much about them i would like to know more and I would like places like the transport dept and AA to inform us and feel if it is available in australia why not here.

I'd like to acknowledge buzzchannel.co.nz for bringing to my awareness the lack of information about biofuels. I believe New Zealanders have the right to make choices about the fuels available and there needs to be good quality information disseminated to the public on this issue. I would also like to see the Government take a pro-active role in encouraging the use of suitable alternative fuels in New Zealand.

Please make our fuels better for greener pasters as we have to consider our health also

If we were to produe our own biofuel here in New Zealand it would help the Ozone which is a major issue here. And also the cost the producing the biofuel may reduce the cost in fuel charges for new zealanders. Has the government looked into this. We say keep our money and spending i new zealand so why not look into this. It would make new zealanders happy and would also help the environment.

i think nz should be thinking of the efect that fuel components have on humans animals etc and change to bio fuel to help with cost so nz can have cheeper fuel

I would like to see a fuel that is friendly to the world and is very reliable to use.

I think it's important NZ takes the stance of becoming as independent as possible from other

sources of fuel for our country; something that can replace that dependency can only be good for our economy.

It's time we got off our butts with biofuel manufacture & use, as all the ingredients to make it are/can be produced here, and perhaps farmers could be persuaded to grow the materials instead of increasingly converting to dairy cow farming, which, especially in Canterbury is harming our soils & polluting our pristine waterways & aquifers, thus likely causing our water supplies to be chlorinated for the first time ever. This would be a costly tragedy. Also producing our own biofuels would help decrease our massive overseas debt which the Govt. doesn't seem to be caring about at present.

I think the Brazilian example proves bio fuels work but need government support, the government need to regulate that ALL petrol stations have a bio fuel pump and regulate for where ever it is feasible to have blended fuels

anything that is cheaper than present price of fuel

I believe that we should fast track any involvement with Biofuels, especially at government level. There are many by-products available in New Zealand right now which I believe can be used in the production of Biofuels. This issue is especially important in ensuring we are less dependent on importing of fuel from overseas & so that we can be more self sufficient. Even more important is the low environmental impact in the production & use of Biofuels.

The price of gas is ridiculous. Stop thinking about your profit margins for one moment and consider people. If biofuels is cheaper for the consumer and still make you a profit then please introduce them, my kids are missing out on extra curricular activities because I cant afford to transport them there, and Im spending more on gas to get to work so any extra costs like subs and gear are the first to go.

the need to look into other fuels are needed now. and we needed to look at the velines as well

I greatly support the general idea of biofuels, provided there is a ecological advantage, that the price is no greater than the present gas and deisel charge. And that it is readily available. An independant recommendation be publically available to all news media, and general public.

I can only hope that the powers that be, in this situation, can for once, get their priorities right and do what is best for the country as a whole and for peoples individual and NOT to concentrate their focus on immensely high profits.

I believe it is well past the time for the government to get involved more seriously in the biofuel argument. I also believe it is time for the government to play a more definite role in the pricing of petrol in general. The economic pressure of rising fuel prices could be relieved immediately except for Michael Cullen's fanatical approach to tax collecting. Eventually this government will pay the price for treating the new zealand public like children and the sooner it implodes the better.

Why does our Government pretend to be for enviroment issues and yet is actually far from it?

I am currently making biodiesel on farm. There needs to be government incentive to promote the growing and processing of biofuels in decentralised locations throughout New Zealand. We can and are making biofuels in New Zealand but we are so far behind the rest of the world. The information the government quotes on TV is from reports over 8 years old. for example recently the transport minister spoke about bio fuels which was almost word for word from a report which was written in 1998. The government and its advisors need to move into the 21st century! We should be making biodiesel from waste tallow from the freezing works and growing crops like canola and soy beans, pressing the seed and converting this to bio diesel which can be used in unmodified diesel engines. There is no reason that New Zealand cannot reduce its diesel importation by 50% in the next 3 years apart from the government not wanting to lose control of the fuel industry.

Our family would be delighted to hear of developments towards a sustainable & environmentally safe biofuel, esp one based on otherwise "waste" (no such thing these days) material or NZ by-products. We just can't see any "downside", & are frankly amazed this initiative hasn't been made long ago. It would be worth Government support (as well as community & customers) just to get urgency & momentum to decrease our dependence on volatile overseas petroleum ASAP. Good for NZ economy in every aspect, good for our unique planet (it'd be such a hassle to have to move to a new one - esp as we quite like it here), & good for giving continuity & certainty to traffic planning & infrastructure. Minimum disruption, huge advantages if technically possible. What/who are we waiting for? For Goodness sake - Get On With It! Now! Cheers (& thanks for chance to rave)

What is seen as more important? Changing to this new, trusted fuel, or not changing, and facing the

consequences 50 years down the line?

Sorry about the solar power boo-boo ! Your questionnaire was well planned to get me on the right track right away. I have thought for many years what will happen when crude oil is all used, But in the words of the French King "apres moi le deluge" ~ I won't be here when it happens. Very interesting and I am right behind research to further this.

I realise that we have an old car fleet which militates against our using biofuels I would like the government to work towards a more modern fleet which could use biofuels. There needs to be a payoff for using this fuel We need to fund the introduction of these fuels and any other research government and the oil companies need to work together Fuel is not a cash cow More careful use of the tax from this source needs to be adopted

More information on bio fuels more readily available to consumers would help people make informed choices.

We are being held to ransom at the moment by oil companies. Cost of oil goes up--immediately prices at the pumps go up. The cost of oil per barrel has dropped in the last week, but no reflection of that at the pumps. Perhaps an incentive from the Government and to promote use and incorporation of biofuel by consumers is to lower their horrendous tax they take at the moment. I would certainly be very keen to have the choice of using this new biofuel. I do read newspapers and watch TV news, but perhaps I have missed the excitement of this product we could all have made available? My question would be, what large company would lose by introducing this, and also what has the Government done to promote it?

I think that biofuel would benefit the country, with less gases and less pollution it would be great

Just a general question about why the lack of progress about having biofuels available in New Zealand?

The Government is all keen on signing the Kyoto Protocol and using taxpayers money to pay the fine when we don't comply, but not very interested in finding answers so we do comply.

New Zealand has a reputation for Clean and Green. If we do not preserve this and actively work towards cleaning up our environment, billions of Dollars will be lost due to tourism, agriculture, foods etc. We need to think long term and not short term. Surely we should be leading this type of technology. Why are we lagging so far behind?

Information on how it will effect older cars is important.

I think its time we New Zealanders were given more opportunity to have a say in what fuels we use in this country after all, we are the consumers. We are the ones who are always paying out for everything that is either imported or exported. As fools we pay for parliamentarians to campaign against us at voting time. Theyre forever taxing us on everything we pay for. We pay taxes to get ripped off by the government only to provide lucrative incomes to parliamentarians to furnish lavish lifestyles. The ordinary New Zealander has to enter into and comply with employment contracts where their performance is reviewed constantly. What about the parliamentarians? Who reviews their performance? How many jobs in New Zealand continue to give you perks after you've retired? This increase of fuel is a clear indication of the government's inability to keep costs down for the taxpayer. My point is.... fuel prices are horrendous thanks to the government. Time they all paid for their own petrol each time they use a departmental vehicle and see how they like it. Itll keep them in office doing their job instead of roaming around on 6 cylinder vehicles breaking speed limits at the expense of the tax payer. Time they were given 1800cc vehicles and big cars used for long distance only. They need to make huge adjustments and cuts too and not expect the taxpayer to cover their unnecessary costs. We are sick of the government's selfish greed. New Zealanders are tired of paying for the mistakes of the government whether its in cash or labour. Helen Clark once begged all the expatriates in Australia to come home and rebuild a safe and happy New Zealand. Come home...what for? To get ripped off, and told what to do. Soon we'll be taxed for breathing because the government's going to run out of things to bring more income into their pockets. Good luck to all those who are leaving for Australia. You have my best wishes. At least you're leaving knowing what you're going to get before you get there....A job and a tax cut. Who can beat that deal!!!

I think that alternative guels must be pro oted, without commercial scaremongering tactics, giving honest apprasels of what people can expect the effects will be on their make and model of vehicle.

Biofuel is a great opportunity for New Zealand to reduce the amount harmful gases released by man made product.The chemicals added to make the Biofuels and Biodiesels are of no shortage in New

Zealand, so there is no risk of changing the way our rural sector is run by using Biofuels...A global effort should be made to instate Biofuels and we should be apart of it.

I would definitely want an answer as to why we do not have bio fuel blends here in NZ. The dairy industry in particular causes so much pollution of our rivers and streams and is a huge consumer of our precious water stocks so therefore wouldnt it great if the dairy industry gave something positive back to the community??

As New Zealand is an underpopulated & fertile country with few mineral resources it behoves us to use the resources we do have and cultivate crops that can be converted to fuel to power vehicles & reduce pollution & our dependance on costly imports. We have an international reputation as a clean, green country which is one of the main attractions for potential tourists. If we are visibly selling bio-fuels at the normal petrol retail outlets we will further enhance the perception that visitors have of NZ being pollution free.

If the technology is available to produce this product and to include it in our fuel, why has this not happened already? What's the hold up?

If anything can be done to stop the price of fuel crippling the average citizen, it must be done. The same applies to further damage to our environment!

New Zealanders need to get over their addictions to cars and money, and start living as a community before they forced to. Production of oil has or is peaking which will lead to soaring prices a huge economic downturn which no one is prepared to look at or discuss.

I think it is very important that we consider all alternatives and the fact that NZ is behind on biofuels (or any alternative) shocks and dismays me greatly. Hurry up NZ get with the program its about time we led the way in this most important of all issues, get clean and green and stop talking the talk start walking the walk!

I feel it would be a great idea to use this Biofuel mixed in with petrol. With it lowering greenhouse emmisions and its something we can produce in our own country it leaves us less dependant on other countrys.

I think it would be a great idea to have cleaner, safer fuel available, even if it was only slightly better for the environment, every little bit helps. There would need to be alot of effort put into the advertising of the new fuel, especially if it were to be sold amongst the old fuel since people tend to stick to what they know, and change is difficult and seen as dangerous. As long as the consumers know that there are no/few risks of using the new biofuel as a substitute for present fuels available then biofuels will be utilised and the kyoto protocol would work slightly better for us as a country.

National Radio recently interviewed someone in New Zealand who is working on producing fuel from sewage pond algae. They are just one of many superb innovators in this country but our governments - and of course the petroleum giants who are only interested in maximum profits - seem disinterested in our own expertise. I'm not a conspiracy type - but I really wonder what drives our politicians when there is such an obvioous need to back our own researchers. Or are they just stupid - as in the case of Pete Hodgson who as energy minister was told of a successful South Canterbury council promotion of energy-saving light bulbs, to which he replied, "The government is getting near to looking at light bulbs". Un-believable - and now he's the health minister????? (the government is getting near to looking at surgery waiting lists....)

Where does New Zealand stand in relation to trialling alternative fuel options used by other countries? What are the results of biofuel use in other countries? Which Government Department/s would implement biofuel trials? Does the Government rely soley on large companies e.g. Fonterra for the development of biofuels? Are any incentives are offered ?

We need Biofuel to become readily available, due to it bringing such obvious benefits to NZ, such as it being better for the environment and also bringing work to NZ'ers through using our own produce to make this fuel

Any thing that keeps us Green and Clean also keeps us healthier. I would strongly recomend we use Biofuel.

Biofuels are an easy and painless first step towards reducing our dependence on importing foreign oil. They should be supported by both fuel companies and the government along with more radical measures like subsidies for zero emission vehicles (electric cars and the like) energy efficient homes (solar water heating) and wind farms and other alternative energy sources. Only bold steps can reduce the need for new power stations and leave any hope of meeting our Kyoto obligations.

Is it not true that Hemp (not the dope varity) could produce most of what we need and some...???

There is more to this issue than "the powers that be will admit"...

The environmental & social benefits of more sustainable options are not valued accurately in the marketplace, and until they are, government needs to find ways to overcome those market barriers. Taxes on more polluting fuels could be used to fund the transitional phases. We can grow our own fuels here -- what rely on imported & polluting petroleum???

I would like to see the inclusion of biofuels in NZ and would not hesitate to use such a fuel in my car. I think that it important to take whatever steps necessary to provide for the use of biofuel and provide education for the public concerning its use and advantages.

There has to be a greater media focus and public education on the matter of bio-fuels, or in fact any fuels that will lower dependancy on imports that are bound to run out soon (Geologists predict Peak Oil output will occur in 2007, while China and the developing world are fast accelerating their use rate of petroleum products). The government has to intervene, its proven that in situations involving commodity pricing and supply to NZ public companies are unable to provide NZers a service reflective of NZs green and public friendly values. But instead of introducing more fees, incentives should be given to those who can help greater bio-fuel blending. Perhaps if farmers or dairy product manufacturers are given some minor tax relief on top of a commodity price for bi-products that are refined and blended into petrol, we would see a neat up-spiral economic effect. The producers would use their otherwise waste to good effect, and NZ would not have to weather fluctuating oil prices which has in the past harmed the economy greatly. The govt could certainly afford giving incentives when greater tax takes are recorded after farmers can spend more, and manufacturers can increase employment (boosting the local economy) instead of paying to dispose of waste

Quite simply, we need to step up & become part of saving the enviroment. We also need to be more independant as a Country. Biofuel is what we NEED to do.

It helps save our environment!!!!

biofuels should be made by the government and only distributed by the oil companies, no doubt they will have to be forced to do even this

Make it available to New Zealanders and the people make thier own decision.

I'm guessing the government is not doing anything in-case they start to loose control

Why isn't it available now? If it cleaner and greener that is better for all of the public, atmosphere/environment and health, especially asmatics. From what I know the only people who benefit from biofuel not being available is the Fuel/Oil companies and the Government. Not everything in this country should be based on \$\$\$ and especially something that affects peoples health and the environment.

We as the human race need to take better care of ourselves and this planet we live on, biofuel will do this

I am concerned about the amount of dangerous emissions in the cities caused by vehicles and I think that the most effective way of reducing these is to introduce and encourage the use of less harmful fuels. I believe that the government would be wise to run a subsidised campaign to do this, much in the same manner that they introduced LPG some time ago. One step further would be to do the same with hybrid cars. I would most certainly purchase biofuel if it were available at the same price as 91, and would also consider trading in my current vehicle for a used hybrid car if they were available for around \$10 - \$12k.

Release any Bio-fuels as soon as possible but only when they are economically viable and are tested as safe as the present fuels.

Just get on with saving our planet. We don't need the rest of the world. Lets start using our own intelligent people to create bioblends for our cars.

if biofuel was available in newzealand and we dont have to change anything on your car to use it and it would be a lot safer on the enviroment it should be here yhankyoun margarette

Yes, - I think Bio-Fuels make an awful lot of sense, - BUT, I'd need to be convinced that they wouldn't cause harm to my vehicle - before I would consider using them. If this assurance could be given, (and "underwritten") - they would be great!

For the good of the country and the world, I believe New Zealanders should actively support the introduction of biofuels into the country, and Government and Industry should work together to make biofuels as accessible, use -friendly and cheap as possible.

To have an alternative fuel that is better for the environment, is made locally and is easily available at not extra cost is the best idea this decade!

Government needs to be proactive in promoting the use of Bio-fuels

For this fuel to succeed in NZ considerable discounts need to be in place to encourage its use, I say push for hydrogen vehicles as Mazda already have corporate hydrogen lease vehicles in place and running in Japan, Technology fuel companies have been buying out for many years, Time to ditch the fuel companies they have taken advantage far too long !!!

I like the sound of producing cleaner and greener fuels, but not at the expense of killing animals. I would rather see the rising sea level water, be produced into some sort of fuel, and maybe it would kill two problems at once.

I saw a programme on the TV, interviewing a NZ person who runs a bio fuel plant in Aus and he commented that the Govt wasn't interested in supporting the production of bio fuels. If there is a problem with greenhouse gasses where did the carbon come from before it was oil and coal. Did this world have more carbon in the atmosphere when the plants were being formed so it might be a good idea to return the carbon back into the atmosphere where it came from in the first place. All compounds stay on the earth that came from the earth. NZ has got lots of oil in the great south basin below Stewart Island Most of the carbon transfer is carried out in the ocean clean that up and we will have better carbon transfer.

Before I start, I'd like to mention that I'm Japanese who live in New Zealand. Please excuse some mistakes of my English. It's been for a while that petrol cost has been far over expensive. It used to be about \$1/litre. People's eyes popped when it was \$1.30/litre. I was so shocked when it reached \$1.50/litre. But now...! Even \$1.50/litre sounds cheap compared to current price of petrol. The Government should do something about it. It affects majority of people. Has been? Not good enough! Otherwise, why it's still so expensive (and the price is still rising)? If Bio-fuel is one of the options, please study quickly about it to introduce and make it available. As I know, it is environmentally friendly as well as economically. It keeps clean, green nation of New Zealand clean & green. I heard it is available even at our across the Tasman neighbour. Why not us?

As NOW I know that BIO FUEL is readily available in other countries, it is imperative that our NEW ZEALAND government ensures that BIO FUEL IS READILY AVAILABLE BY next year.

I would like to know why biofuel isn't available in NZ when it is almost everywhere else

NZ needs to refocus on its future requirements based on not only what is best for the environment but what is affordable for the country now and in the next 50 years.

To whom it may concern, As an educated New Zealander living in the USA, I am extremely concerned about the state of the oil industry and believe it vital to find new ways to reduce emissions and save on our global oil resources. Environmentally, this matter is urgent, and the fiscal benefits of a Biofuel program are being proven as well. Sincerely

The Government should be actively promoting the use of biofuel. Most development I've heard of is homegrown with no Government backing. Blending biofuel isn't the end, it's the beginning, we should be moving toward 100% biofuel based product so we can completely eliminate our dependency on imported oil. For this to happen, it may require new engine designs, and again, this would be great if NZ could lead the world in this.

Bio-Fuels are a logical step in the walk towards a reduction of a dependence on crude oil. Oil is required for much greater things than for combustion. It is simply a waste to burn one of our greatest resources when it is essential in the production of medications fertilisers and science in general. Bio-Fuels will help combat the growing number of cars and the growing demand in oil. We must accept the world as a public domain that we all have a stake in. We must realise that it is not ours to pillage now and leave dregs for the future. We must see that the world is a resource for all, a resource that we must give our grandchildren and great grandchildren. We must protect it so that they can have the same quality of life as we enjoy today. Our environment is what gives us life, surely we can see that pillaging it is not sustainable. Let's move together towards clean energy. Let's be a part of something great. Let's build an economy that isn't based on fossil fuels and dependent on energy prices. Let's build a world free from pollution!

I would like to see the use of Biofuels used in New Zealand as it would make it more Cleaner & Greener for the safety of New Zealand.

Why don't you stop mucking about. Create an incentive to start to produce biofuels. Also Create an incentive for people to build more energy efficient homes (not legislation - NZ was once a free

country) Points system when building a new home solar water, double glazing, better than minimum std insulation etc and provide a tax/rates reduction for 5 years.

I believe it is time that govt did something more in regards to lowering our dependence on imported fuels..and if by adding bio fuels to our imported fuel it makes it go further ..then it should be a consideration.Fuel isnt not going to get any cheaper and I for one am already limiting my travelling due to the cost of petrol.These issues are important to everyone in this country as the cost of fuel translates right through the economy when you take into account the transporting of food and everything else we need.it is high time the govt stopped sitting on its hands..and leans away from the idea that people just need pay more as a limiting factor to using fuel.

Get off your behinds and do something!

Anything that is going to improve theGreenhouse effect and save our planet should be available here in New Zealand also if it can be done locally it must be great for our economy!

I think Biofuels should be readily available in NZ petrol pumps. This is something we (NZers) can do to help ourselves during this energy crisis time. If we can produce this locally then what a boost this would be to our economy! I really don't understand why we haven't done this already.

Oil companies are making a huge profit on their fuel sales and should be investing more into making our planet a cleaner and safer place to live and our Government also benefits from every fuel increase with all their taxes and should be taking lead from other countries, especially our neighbour in promoting biofuels. Unfortunately our Oil companies and government are run by profit driven people who are only worried about NOW and not the future for our children.....

My understanding is that motor vehicle costs (vehicles, parts and fuel) make up the major component of our foreign exchange payments. Given the current account deficit this must be addressed. Given the volatility of the major fuel (Middle East, Venezuela, Russia, etc) producing areas and the risk associated with relying on a product from there, we leave ourselves vulnerable to disruption to all aspects of our lives due to reliance on oil. This must be changed for security reasons, security in a wider context than just military. It may be that biofuels are not as environmentally friendly as currently being said. However if they are found to be natural compared to existing practices we should seriously consider them for the reasons above. (reasons for less environmental benefit include; impact of production, allocation of land to grow source material, etc.)

I want to know why the bio-industry isn't pushing the government to allow cannabis sativa as a source for fuel? Cannabis is four times more suited to provide bio-fuels than any other plant on this planet. It can grow almost anywhere, it can be grown by farmers as a soil conditioning plant, then sold on as fuel. One acre of cannabis can supply 1000 gallons of bio-fuel. Due to prohibition cannabis can not, and will not even be considered. It seems that we by pass one of the best fuel source solely to appease America's war on drugs.

The production and distribution of biofuels should be governed by commercial considerations. There is a possibility that the current high in petroleum based fuels will be reversed for a period of several years but there should be no disincentives for developing supply and distribution for biofuels in NZ. Taxation for any fuel should be reviewed in terms of what works best for the economy and NZ productive capacity, not as a way of regulating end use alone. Biofuel production in NZ should not be based on regulated change of raw material use, for example in the dairy product sector. Also land use for biofuels should not displace profitable horticultural production unless the choice is made by the landowner/producer. New uses for marginal land for biofuel should be part of the equation. None of the research and development process for biofuel should reduce any effort expended on researching the use of coal as a raw material for liquid fuel production and all other fuel alternatives should be similarly considered in the overall fuel package for NZ. No topics should be taboo such as the debate for the use of nuclear power as the energy source for electricity in the production of hydrogen fuel. There has to be a neat balance between environmentalism, economic stability/lifestyle and sustainability in the best sense of the word. Using the term Green inherently creates a good/bad scenario which degrades reasonable debate in sustainability issues. These important issues are to do with the use of science in a reasoning process that ensures quality of life over the foreseeable future. It also means that we should access and adapt technologies from global sources and not develop an insular outlook that could restrict our options for good solutions.

if it is cheaper and more efficient it would be definitely and it's better for the environment and wouldn't cause as much pollution

If Biofuel were to be manufactured locally, the pump price should be significantly lower, owing to

non reliance of overseas content. Taxes collected should be used for roading etc. and not syphoned of to the consolidated fund

I am suprised that the subject of biofuel has not been given a high priority (if any) by the government given that we are almost entirely dependent on import of petroleum products to drive our economy.

This Labour administration is heavy handed with all its fuel taxations despite the massive increases of prices and the obvious inflationary effect that has on the economy and yet does not have the vision to be leading, with incentives, a change to bio fuels technology.

I am puzzled as to why, here in New Zealand, we have made no move into Bio-fuels. There seems to be no good reason why we haven't. As a country whose major exports have been made in the use of pasture growth, it would seem that we have every reason to make a move fast. Mag Youngman

Get off your butts. This is my country but from wjats happening lately- I feel that you do not like n.z. I will not be voting Labour again. Your party has forgotten its roots.

I would like to see locally produced biofuels added to current fuel. This should be available at all service stations, to make it a convenient way for us to lower green house gases and preserve a piece of what is left of the ever dwindling ecology system. Regards Kim Lancaster

There is overwhelming independent expert evidence that the 'Peak Oil' issue is real. Biofuels are a logical stop-gap while fuel manufacturers/suppliers work on effective alternatives to petroleum; that is, if they haven't already got these alternatives waiting in the wings. It is also obvious that petroleum is a major pollutant - again, independent expert evidence is unequivocal on this. I know that corporate social responsibility really ends at the profit margin, but there are huge profits to be made in marketing the least toxic, most affordable, products. It's the 21st century, guys; get with the programme.

I really do think that bio fuels should be introduced this year and not wait we are just about the only country not doing this maybe we should be like brazil

why arn't we at least trying other feuls, why allways do nothing

I would strongly suggest that the Government look at using and supplying Biofuels in New Zealand. There should be no reduced taxes when biofuels are introduced, come on labour get behind the 'Clean Green Image' Don't worry about the Fuel companies they are 'Big Boys' they can look after themselves, start looking after NZ. Don't go putting together a sub-committee to look at the viability of Biofuels there is enough documentation overseas to provide good reason to bring Biofuels to NZ

I think there should be organised demonstrations around the country, with pamphlets describing what Bio-fuels are, and, also, demonstrations of motors actually running on Bio-fuel. The only thing that could go against people using Bio-fuels, is the tax, that the Government will impose on the product.

with the way prices with normal petrol is at the moment it would be a good time to start putting out a new kind of petrol especially if its kind to the enviroment.

I believe it is important for NZ to find alternatives to the fuel we have now. We need cheaper alternatives and it will mean we are not held to ransom by the petrol cartels. We also need to protect our "green" status in the world. We also need to stop or lower the production of green house gases and protect the ozone layer.

New Zealand has an international reputation for being Clean & Green, yet no company is actively changing its products to assist in this image. In fact, there seems to be a decided lack of support for change. Bio fuels have been and are actively promoted and provided in many countries. Why is New Zealand, where we are supposed to be forward thinking, being treated as if the public opinion is nothing? Why is money the only driving force in fuel provision? Everytime someone comes up with a system to help minimise fossil fuel use, so much derision is heaped on the process that it falls by the wayside. Bio fuels are a great alternative, but even better would be the hydro fuel currently running the buses in Iceland. If they can do it why aren't we?

I nthink we all should be doing more in all aspects of alternative fuels and power forms

If biofuels can be supplied at nearly the same price as the fuels we are now using, and they prove to not effect the performance of most cars, then I wonder why we are not using them in New Zealand. You can spend MY tax dollars on so many things that have no benefit to our household, this is one area that can benefit everyone. You must remember, that the tax dollars are not yours -

they belong to all New Zealanders.

i would just like to say that bio-fuel sounds like the ideal step for this country to uphold and keep our 'clean, green image'. to be up with they play like other major countries (america) would also be good.

I cannot understand why biofuel is not available. Surely a cheap reliable source of fuel is important

It is about time that New Zealand joined the rest of the world and looked into the possibility of introducing bio fuels. With the current price of fuel, I am sure that the Oil Companies probably dont want to know about them, but for once listen to the people. Not only is it better for the world as a whole, the country will also benefit in the long run. I would like my grandchildren to be able to continue to enjoy our green image.

Bio fuels will only work if the price is similar, the same or cost less than fuel does presently. If the government make it more expensive it is doomed to fail and I think it is important we have this choice.

Whilst the price of fuel has risen there is still no problem with supply that demands government intervention. However the government do need to put in place the sort of business friendly environment that will allow alternative fuel suppliers the ability to produce fuels in competition. There is no way we need another think big government solution.

I definately think we as a country should be doing something about this type of fuel. It really bugged me to see a programme on TV recently about Biofuel in Australia. For goodness sake it was a New Zealander who invented it and was running the show. He made no secret of the fact that he'd offered it to the NZ Government who'd said "NO!!!!"to it. How silly can you get?!!!! Now the Aussies are benefiting from a Kiwi idea! I've seen other programmes on TV as well where other countries, I see less developed than NZ, are doing there own thing as well. I think it's wrong that we motorists are being held to ransom by the big oil countries because we've been made to depend on them. If NZ has a way to provide a fuel that's better for the environment then we've got to do something about getting it into use. If it's also going to be kinder on the pocket for us the motorist, then it has to be done.

It is a surprise to me that a strategic issue like fuel is being handled in such an off-hand manner by the government. It seems that government is unwilling (unable?) to make the tough decisions required and when decisions are made they tend to be somewhat short-sighted - the synfuels project in Taranaki being a case in point. One also wonders about the wisdom of allowing foreign companies to exploit the local resources for their own benefit with only small benefits accruing to New Zealand - one concedes that tax revenue is generated but one also wonders how this compares with the 'bigger picture'?

It seems stupid that we do not have the opportunity to use a more environmentally fuel, and one that is less subject to fluctuations in fuel prices. If you can't get people out of their cars and on to public transport, then why not do something to help the environment?

I believe we MUST do all we can to help preserve our environment, and our overseas funds. Will it not be another employment opportunity? If Biofuel has been proven as is claimed, why are we not using it here. Is it because the fuel companies won't be able to make as much profit? If this is the case, then it is time these companies put New Zealand's welfare, before their profits. The first company to sell Biofuel will earn my custom and my loyalty. Patricia Smith (Mrs.) 171 Portage Road, New Lynn West, Waitakere City.

I think as a consumer we have the right to choose the fuel that we use in our cars weather it be for efficiency or environmental reasons. Sharlene Robinson 54 Margate Ave Flaxmere Hastings. 06 8795977

if we sell NZ as a clean green country should we not do ALL we can to make that true! Also the USA is crap lets do all we can to sperate NZ from them and this stupid world wide crap going on with oil!

There has been quite a bit of research done in NZ already, plus production, and cannot understand an apparent reluctance by the Govt. to develop a self sustaining / self sufficiency fuel and lubricant industry in NZ. Considering England during WW2 was suppling such for it's high tech fighter plane engines, why can't we, now do similar. Trees and crops for this can help in our rural areas with unemployment and social problems also. The over-all cost benefits to the country I believe is well worth developing such industry. Graeme Cantlon 114b Burwood Rd. Christchurch (03) 3833027

i think with the price of fuel these days is completly over the top, and we as a new zealand country need to start looking at a better alternative, with something that can provide better care for our

environment. Biofuel sounds fantastic and I would be certainly keen to try it. I don't see why we can't start using it, when a lot of other countries are. thanks

Fuel prices have gone through the roof so we need to do something about it. If bringing in Biofuels is going to fix this problem, then why haven't we done anything about it yet????

There are so many reasons to start making biofuels widely available: Environment Cost Local industry Independence We need to take serious steps NOW to ensure that we are sustainable.

Get a cheaper cleaner petrol for the clean green country we like to call NZ!!!!!!!!!!!!

If we are to leave a better place for our children and grand children to live in, we must heed the warnings of the natural world and find a friendly alternative to fossil fuels. The oil-rich nations are currently holding the rest of us to ransom, demanding astronomical prices.

We all need to do all we can to look after this wonderful planet that we love I am not convinced that this is what our government [the one I voted for] is doing this ..fuel improvements need to be ,not just thought about ,but have something done about .More advertising too please

We need to be making major moves toward cleaner, greener fuel alternatives where we have to rely less on the dwindling oil sources out there. We need to take a more active step in protecting the environment while we still have a chance. If biofuel is being used successfully overseas we need to look seriously at that. Electric cars and hybrids should also be encouraged which means the government needs to stop charging road user costs on electric vehicles. They're doing this because they're not making money at the pumps on them but it's not going to encourage people to look at buying them. I'm tired of governments, both here and overseas, putting profits ahead of the environment.

In New Zealand we need to be less dependant on overseas crude oil for our energy. Bio fuels are the future energy sources and we can produce them cheaply. The government and industry should combine and research these alternatives.

yes please do introduce this new ummmmm not new but new to our pumps. I don't actually have a car now but I'm reliant on public transport which I don't need anymore fare rises with! And of course almost every product in NZ comes into contact with raising fuel prices even if it's partially transported by a train as the gear needed to put the product in/off the train if petrol related

We are one of the few countries in the World that could comfortably grow serious quantities of bio-fuel and not affect our abilities to grow food. We also have vast amounts of by-product already immediately available to create fuel from the forestry, agriculture, dairy, horticulture and the fish industry. Most is wasted without any effort to use these collectively hundreds of thousands of tonnes of bio-mass in a more effective way. The technologies to use them are simple and also immediately available. The question should be why the current Administration has made no effort to seriously promote the switch to bio-fuels.

We should be world leaders in green new zealand seem to be going backwards very Quickly for some reason?

I am in favour of biofuels, if they are safe for cars, as making NZ more self-sufficient. I was a user and ardent supporter of CNG until it became hard to get. I still feel it is terribly wasteful that Natural Gas (NG) is being used to make electricity, when it was such a premium, and local, motor and house-hold fuel. Using NG to power a car results in less maintenance, and a small loss of power that is not noticed by the average driver. Using NG to generate electricity is about 30% efficient. Using that electricity to heat a house with a flued heater is 100% efficient less line losses - ie about 29% efficient use of NG. Using NG to heat a house with a flued heater is about 70% efficient less line losses - ie about 66% efficient use of NG. Water heaters, stoves and unflued heaters are more efficient than flued heaters.

To the Powers that be: I have been fortunate to work with a qualified mechanic who began producing bio diesel and using it in his 4WD - 100%. His report after 3 months was: That it was incredibly cheap to produce; It was costing him something like 3c a litre to produce biodiesel from used cooking oil which he bought from all the commercial kitchens in our little country town - Leinster, Western Australia. That it made no difference to the performance of his 4WD. My husband and I had two trucks to fulfill our contract with WMC. We explored the possibility of buying our fuel from Bart to use in our trucks. He was keen to do this, however, he was unable to meet our demand because we used a lot of fuel and he could not produce it as fast as we needed it. If biodiesel is corrosive to engines, Mr Stimpson never mentioned it and he was using it in his vehicle because it cost him so little to make it and he didn't have to have a licence from the government to

make it and it saved him hugely in fuel costs to use it. His wife and him were already researching going into business to produce and sell bio diesel back then and that was 2001. What he had found out was that there was no law in Australia at all to help or protect or regulate the production and sale of bio diesel and to open a gas station producing and selling it needed the government to legislate. They researched the bio diesel stations in Europe and America and found that they had government produced guidelines by which they could set up their garages and begin to trade in bio diesel. I do definitely think that this should happen. The New Zealand and Australian governments need to legislate the guidelines to allow producers to open alternative fuel gas stations and begin to sell it commercially. With the absolutely ludicrous strangle hold that the middle east oil producers have over the fuel price these days, this alternative will certainly be the catalyst to remove their power and stabilise the fuel price for the economy. Especially as these countries bare such an active hatred for the western countries these days. Jeni Roxburgh-Smith Kalgoorlie, Western Australia

I am very interested in biofuel technology and it would be appreciated if you could do all you could to ensure that adequate research is carried out and all is done that can be done, in order to make the necessary changes to keep this country (and the rest of the world) clean and green.

I think that its time that New Zealanders realise that we are not the most environmentally friendly version. You just have to get up in the morning when there is no wind blowing the pollution off shore. It is worse than Los Angeles, what is worse we portray ourselves as environmentally friendly. I am ashamed of what we are doing to this beautiful country and our health. You should reduce taxes on more environmentally friendly fuels and initiatives. Make it more accessible to everyone. The government should take the lead in this. Shame on you for not doing more re this already.

Whether or not you believe in the peak oil scenario, our collective dependence on unsustainable and environmentally disastrous fossil fuels has got to stop. That there is an alternative fuel that is cost-efficient, environmentally friendly and sustainable, and it is not available in NZ, beggars belief. Why is the government not doing something about ensuring that we have it here? Are they even doing any more than playing lip service to reducing of reliance on petroleum? Even if biofuels were currently more expensive than petrol and deisel that situation won't last with the expected crude oil price increases, over and above what we have already seen over the last couple of years. We shouldn't be waiting for the oil companies to do something - they are laughing all the way to the bank under the current situation, why would they want to see a change. It is up to the government to put money into this for research where it is needed and the integration of biofuels as soon as possible. They are putting more and more money into building roads which are likely to become obsolete in the near future, because even if we don't actually run out of oil, supply and demand issues will mean we won't be able to afford it - then everyone will rightly wonder why some of that roading money wasn't spent on finding and introducing a viable alternative. Brazil are already using ethanol produced from sugar cane - surely we have something similar to harness in this supposedly, clean, green country of ours.

I feel the government has been treading water, no action to positively advance the introduction of biofuels. The big fuel companies do not want to have the trouble of changing a, for them, very cosy situation. They have the consumer by the , errrrrr um, well no other option. The AA is just a voice in the wilderness, they try, but are virtually ignored by govt and fuel companies. Money, the main fuel suppliers are making so much out of the consumer, there should be a price justification in place, or govt price control.

I think the government should look into bio-fuels and give the public the choice of what fuel they would like to use.

Hi Why arn't we using biofuels it seems sensible

Cleaner, Greener and a more non-toxic New Zealander. I have always been a believer in the concept of, cleaner and greener, which in my family primarily evolves around being conscious about what we eat and also the air we breathe in. As any New Zealander, I would seriously consider moving to Biofuels, for the fact that it's cheaper, more efficient and is less damaging to the environment. It can help improve the security of transport fuel supplies and offer worthwhile health and emissions benefits. The time has come to take the first small step so that the industry can make investment decisions with certainty. Biofuels are already used in many Western countries including the US, Australia, most European countries and Canada. The City of Raleigh, Fleeting Company in the United States use biodiesel. They have developed a programme which incorporates B20, compressed natural gas (CNG), and electric vehicles in its fleet. The Program managers of this fleet and the Biofuels-programme report that they have not experienced any maintenance problems in the 4 years they have been running the AFV program. CNG is clean and the fuel is inexpensive

(about USD\$.69/gallon). In addition to air quality benefits, biodiesel burns cleaner and cleans out fuel lines. Brazilians are choosing to pump bioethanol into their cars, reducing the country's dependency on petrol and setting a worldwide example on how to reduce greenhouse emissions from transport. The New Zealand government is apparently focusing on two types of biofuel - bioethanol to be blended with petrol, and biodiesel to be blended with diesel. Scoop.co.nz say: "Enough biodiesel can be produced from tallow to provide around five per cent of New Zealand's diesel, while the dairy industry could today produce enough bioethanol to meet only 0.3 per cent of our petrol needs." More than 183,600 "flexi-fuel" cars, which run on petrol or ethanol made from sugar cane, were sold in December in Brazil, more than 70% of all cars sold there. In total, 33% of all fuel used is now made from sugar. Luis Cortez, a professor at the University of Campinas, Brazil, who has spent 20 years researching biofuels, reels off the reasons behind his country's growing ethanol empire: "The land, the rain, the climate and experience." he then goes on to say: "The developed world should look at how a poor country was able, by means of its own creativity, to give an intelligent answer to the energy problem." Biofuels are a success in these markets because high quality standards have been set, as they have been here, and because fuel and vehicle manufacturers endorse their use. The Japan Automobile Manufacturers Association has already said that it would not have a problem with the use of a three per cent ethanol petrol blend though there are distribution and storage issues to be identified and addressed. I say, let New Zealand be on the list of success stories, when it comes to being aware of and practicing "Bio production" in our country, let's stay true to our belief of our country, being Cleaner and Greener and make it so.

All alternatives to improve the environment must be investigated, but with assistance from the govt. This could be instead of tax cuts or a short term small rise in petrol tax, but with a highly accountable system for agencies that will undertake the research and production, with the new fuel being priced below others to encourage use, similar to a idea that is used in other countries.

WE SHOULD REDUCE OUR DEPENDANCE ON OVERSEAS OIL COMPANIES AND START OUR OWN SUPPLY. THAT WAY THE PRICE WILL NOT BE OVERLY AFFECTED BY THE "WAR ON TERRORISM" BASICALLY JUST AN EXCUSE BY THEM TO KEEP CHARGING MORE AND MORE

I would like to know why New Zealand is lagging behind with the availability of Biofuels. With N.Z. having such a large Dairy Industry we cannot say we don't have the raw materials to produce Biofuels. The world obviously know's how to make it and we can get the technology to produce it. This would make it easier to cope with the fuel shortages and to meet the obligations with the Kyoto Accord. We always harp on with our Clean Green image but don't seem to be able to follow through. Get with the plan and let's make it happen.

I think it is well past time that New Zealand should be looking into viable alternative fuel supplies. Certainly anything that provides a lower or no harmful emissions should receive priority. With fuel prices currently rising so is the Governments tax share so perhaps they should look to the future before hydrocarbons run out and so does their tax take.

If you don't know about this Bio-Fuel we the customer should be advised, but if it has proved ok in other countries why is New Zealand lagging behind, we must be up there with the mainstream not lagging behind like we normally do. Rex Thurgood 7 Eddlewood Court Rototuna Hamilton.

Well what should I say about this it is just common sense to want a cleaner greener environment and this is one of the ways to start. I am all for it. na Kerri

Get off your arse and do something about it! Force the oil companies to release some of their profits and invest in the new technology fuels in much the same way as broadband internet should/could be introduced. It's not hard you just have to force the issue and ignore the "political" aspect of changes.

I think it is time we looked at other types of fuel as oil is coming too expensive and NZ has plenty of waste products from the dairy industry for us to look at turning into biofuels. It is time that the government did something about it and the oil companies.

Let's move on the alternative fuels now rather than later when things reach a crisis state. Every we bit we do now is a step towards a better future for our children. Or does corporate economics dictate that getting to the crisis point is better for business by way of higher "opportunistic" prices?

My main desire is to know if Biofuels have any negative effect on my engine, environment is important but immediately any damage, loss of power or repair cost affects me immediately and directly in the pocket. I want information on these issues as much as about information about benefit to the environment

I'm from Auckland and personally I am tired of seeing the "smog" on days of low or no wind.

Apparently at least 1000 human beings every year in clean green NZ, DIE from pollution related illnesses. When I lived in Kaukapakapa the smell of the city always affected me as soon as I started down the northwest motorway. That was almost 10 years ago. Isn't it time we all put our hands up and took responsibility for OUR mess. That includes oil companies and government and ALL political parties. I want cleaner air, safer cities, and a more sustainable approach to energy. I have a 4 year old. She deserves to inherit the world I was born into in 1960's. Not the one we are currently creating.

If New Zealand is to make more than a token commitment to the principles behind the Kyoto Agreement - not merely the expressed wishes of the politicians - it is necessary for the country as a whole to take some affirmative action. Obviously our greatest contribution will be in agricultural research, endeavouring to reduce the 'greenhouse gas' emissions from farm animals but this is a long term project. Biofuels can be introduced quickly, cheaply and with immediate benefit. As a side benefit, any measure which reduces the self-interested, profit-driven influence of the international oil suppliers is to New Zealand's advantage. As long as the US doesn't invade us to gain control of our bio-fuel sources ... oh yes, and to remove the threat to world safety and stability of our terrorist sheep.

I feel that biofuels should be produced and made available to the people of New Zealand. The products are readily available, we wouldn't have to rely on overseas companies and the fuel would be kinder on our environment.

Many sources who are doing research have results, that they believe, proves that no damage is caused to engines with 100% Biodiesel. Independent research is available via the Internet and provided you do your homework, is more trustworthy than the information Fuel companies provide. The Fuel coy's all have a history of "Spin" to suit their own purposes. The Government should keep out of the issue except to ensure there is a level playing field on which Bio-fuel start-ups are able to compete with established multi nationals such as BP, Shell, Mobile etc.

sugar should be made into Ethanol, not eaten. This will solve some of the fuel crisis and much of the over weight problems.

I am concerned at talk of using animal based biofuel products. While we do have a stockpile of tallow, we have to keep in mind that cows produce the largest part of our greenhouse gas emissions in NZ. We won't be doing much for our greenhouse gases and Kyoto agreements if we replace one pollutant (petrol) with another (cows). It may seem strange but really we could do more for greenhouse gas reduction by producing biofuel from non animal sources. Hemp is a good producer of biofuel and we already have hemp trials going in NZ. We should expand hemp production and look harder at alternative biofuel sources (ie not tallow!).

i don't see why NZ is shying away from biofuels. as long as they perform as well as standard petroleum mixes and cost the same (if not less), the government and petroleum companies should actively seek to introduce these new initiatives. We're supposed to have the 'clean green image' and biofuels are another step towards keeping the image.

Developing fuels that fit with New Zealand's so-called 'clean-green' image is vitally important both from a presentation point of view and in order to maintain a healthy environment. 'Kiwis' are a complacent society and follow along with what is handed to them by the mass media and it seems, even more so what the fuel companies dictate. As per the recent article in the Herald on alternative fuels, there is a very real scope for the fuel companies to switch their production to alt. fuels. The market is there, and as they can be produced cheaper it seems odd that they're being slow to invest in the research/upgrades needed to bring this to fruition.

We need an alternative energy source for our vehicles, and biofuel is the answer! Petrol is disappearing and we shouldn't have to rely on other countries for any energy supply. Biofuel could be in-part locally produced, providing work and income for our friends, whanau and community. As it can be a bi-product from the dairy industry, we would also be reducing waste, not to mention the reduction in harmful gases to our environment.

if this is as good as they say why don't we have the freedom of choice as to what we use

the price of fuel definitely needs to be looked at. If biofuel is better for the environment then surely a price reflecting this at most people's price range would certainly improve the performance of vehicles and people's mood. Especially when it comes to re- election

It is the right of all of us to be informed of fuel alternatives. I believe that cheap efficient petrol alternatives are available now albeit with a different motor requirement. Fuel companies have a vested interest in keeping petrol consumption high and so they should. They are profit driven

companies as are all of my investment companies. Making a profit is my goal also as often as possible. However, the right to know all the alternatives available and the relative costings and savings is a fundamental to my opinion as a consumer on any company. Relevant, non biased information is the key to bio and fuel diversity and Kyoto and greenhouse gas considerations. AA should be more active as they may be the only independent observer.

I think NZ needs to really up the ante when it comes to our environmental issues. Especially given the rise in tourism and the importance in maintaining the quality of our environment. As part of this air pollution appears to be an issue, alongside the rising price of petrol. NZ needs to sort out its environmental policies as we're only clean and green due to lack of numbers not our attitudes and behaviours. We also have far too much of a love of cars - so a real solution could lie in bio fuels. However we need support of the government in order to gain buy in from everyday consumers.

A group of farmers in the Wairarapa 20 years ago went into producing their own ethanol from farm produce. Regulations and costs forced them to abandon their pursuits. The process however was very successful. Sad their enthusiasm and ultimate success was marred by govt regulations at the time. It appears that mentality sadly still exists today. If we could free up and encourage enterprise in this area it would surely become good thing.

It is essential not only to ADD biofuels to the actual petrol but very quickly convert all the cars to biofuel only in order to be energy independent, lower the cost and environmentally safe. Of course we all know the petrol companies will try to stop it.....

I am in the hospitality business and have noticed a great lack of motor homes on the road since the petrol prices have gone so high. This must have some effect on our tourism and I expect our overseas visitors may be staying in the cities that they land in. This means our clean green countryside that we all promote isn't going to be seen by the tourist.

I like the idea of NZ using biofuels because it is a good alternative. It can help us be less dependent on overseas fuel suppliers. It fits well with our clean green image and we certainly are able to diversify our other industries and use byproducts instead of wasting them.

with all the talk about being clean and green place NZ is, bloody well do it before we look like a bunch of cop outs.

Please consider the Biofuel options - this could be your chance to get some Brownie Points from the public and improve your image

In the interest of global warming, price and the effect world upheaval can have on supplies from overseas I believe we should make every endeavour to develop our own biofuels, with the aim of easing our dependence upon a vulnerable fuel source, with vulnerable routes to this country. We should proceed as a step to develop alternative sources, in the interest of industry & transport in particular.

I think that we haven't been informed about bio fuels and more effort should be made to get the general public educated. I would definitely use biofuels but think that a lower price tag would make more people use them.

If the product is cheaper and easier to produce locally why aren't these companies telling us about it...surely it would be to their benefit as well?

I need to be educated about biofuels... If there was evidence that they did not damage my car and were not extremely expensive and beneficial to the greenhouse problem then YES I would use them... Please give the public some education... I am interested.. but want to learn from a reliable source.

I can't believe that NZ has not already started using biofuels as other countries have. I think we should have different strengths available so that newer cars that are less likely to be corroded by it can use a much higher concentration of biofuels, while people with older cars can opt to use a lower concentration, like the choice between 91 and 96 octane. Then we can gradually get to the point where we will all use the alternative. I think it is incredibly short-sighted of petrol companies to be looking only at current profits and of the government to be looking at current costs, when our future is at stake. Who knows when petrol will become very difficult to obtain because of strife in the producing countries, or a decision to make the price too high. We need to prepare ourselves now to become much more independent.

Get with the rest of the world and start caring more about our environment

I think that it is imperative for NZ to make a start on producing alternative fuels when we are so dependent on imports. We have a very sophisticated agricultural sector who with the right

incentives would be able to take a progressive part in providing the raw materials for the production of bio-fuels. Some work has been already done in this area by individuals in a private capacity, and some local bodies have done the same with fuel production from waste. There needs to be more co-ordination.

We are slowly destroying the environment and anything organisations and the government can do to reduce the damage we have created is absolutely necessary. It is up to the large companies to give the general public more environmentally options if and when they become available even if this may affect their already huge profit margins.

I would, for environmental reasons, be more than interested, so long as the cost does not exceed that which is currently applied to petrol.

1. This survey contained a question in the text that read "...so why aren't biofuel blends available in NZ?". I understand that Ministers in the current NZ government have issued press releases in the recent past that have outlined the government's commitment to a mandatory sales percentage of biofuels in the near future, subject to further work and consultation being done before a figure is to be decided for the sales target. I suggest that the writers of surveys such as this check government media releases before inserting such text into surveys. I think that the presence of the question above in the text of the survey may also not be ideal from the perspective of conducting neutral surveys. The survey itself seemed somewhat biased. I am not sure how that might affect the validity of the results. 2. I do not drive a car, so some of my responses to the survey were hypothetical. That is, I said what I would do in the hypothetical situation that I did own and drive a car. The survey questions seemed to assume that respondents own and drive a car. 3. In my view, biofuels are unlikely to be a big part of any solution to NZ's greenhouse gas emissions and fossil fuel use from transport any time in the next decade. I think it is far more important to get NZers out of their cars and into lower energy modes such as walking, cycling and public transport. The government should be far more visibly active in these areas, in my view.

If there is any way we can reduce the amount of petrol or diesel used each day throughout NZ, without the need for large scale alteration of vehicles, why the hell aren't we doing it? Even reducing our total usage by 5% would make a large difference to the amount of emissions entering our environment. However, for this to work the biofuel needs to be no more expensive (even a little cheaper, maybe reduce tax on it to encourage people to switch) and not require any alterations to vehicles.

I have lived in an African country that used a 10% biofuel blend (ethanol) in petrol and it worked fine. Over 25 years ago Invermay Agricultural research Station near Mosgiel had several tractors and a car running on biofuel from maize. The technology isn't new, it gives greater security and independence. Lets do it.

New Zealand touts itself as clean and green, and yet in so many ways we are not. Let's walk the talk!

Part of a responsible government is protection of the environment. Another function of a good government is protection from unforeseen crises. Making New Zealand less dependant on foreign fuel supplies will lessen the shock of potential crude oil price increases. Biofuels solve the problem of the increasing cost of crude oil and are an environmentally benign solution. Biofuels should be used even if there is a financial cost to the government, to companies or to consumers. Alan Liefiting Christchurch

Its high time the Govt provided us with a safe and economical fuel our environment is in danger from greenhouse gasses and something must be done before its too late I think this fuel has been proven overseas and the Govt should follow their example Time for action !!!

Biofuels should be available in New Zealand and Oil, such as Canola, IS such a fuel readily available here, but is rather disgustingly (and I mean that most sincerely, due to it's Sump Oil smell when heated) used in cooking. As well as Bio-Fuels, we also need BETTER engines to use them, and I can think of nothing better to use than the very new and exciting MYT Engine being developed by ANGEL LABS LLC. ( <http://www.angellabsllc.com> ) in the US. I am very impressed with what I have seen of it. Check it out! It will replace ALL combustion engines as we know them. It runs on Hydrogen, Petrol, Diesel and Bio-Diesel as well as Natural Gas. It is the equivalent to a HUGE Truck engine in power, and yet smaller than a Rotary engine from a family car, and yet gets 200 MPG. It is the equivalent to a 32 Cylinder engine. There is NO pollution from it because the fuel is 100% burnt. I hate the wastage of fuel we have today. It is NOT being used properly, or to it's maximum potential, because the engines we have today are still literally the same as those in the Model T

FORD. They are only a lot flashier and more complicated, but, still the same thing. Pistons, crank shaft, valves, cylinders, etc. The MYT Engine is a TOTALLY different design and has to be the GREATEST Breakthrough to hit the World. THIS is the Engine of Tomorrow, and it is long over due. I WANT ONE!!

There is an opportunity here, and perhaps with regard to Government - an obligation, to get involved at 'ground level' and set up a NEW network to manufacture and distribute Biofuels COMPLETELY INDEPENDENTLY, ie NO association whatsoever with the established oil companies. There are already 'backyard types' working on Biofuel development in NZ and perhaps Government should sponsor these groups. Gee, maybe the Government could even re-direct some of the massive income from fuel tax into such a project. Probably though notions such as this would be incomprehensible to rocket scientists such as Dr Michael Cullen and his cronies. Forums such as this though are an ideal vehicle to deliver a reminder to government that they were elected BY the people FOR the people and their opinions on subjects like this, interesting though they may be, are of no consequence to us, the constituents. If enough people actually give a shit about being held hostage by the oil companies - as we are now - then all we need do is INSTRUCT our staff - ie the government - to set up Biofuel production as an alternative. If the don't hear our voices now they will hear them at the next election.

Something needs to be done immediately about research and development into alternative fuels for cars. We are all held ransom to petroleum at an escalating cost that is now becoming unaffordable. Just look at the statistic's on fuel station drive-offs to see my point.

This country needs to be more green, considering the type of country we live, I would have expected a clean green country to support such activities and be producers and users.

It'll be the best solution for the medium and long term to utilise the use of bio fuels (locally produced). I argue this because the country does not have the infrastructure to do without the shipping of goods on the roads. The rail network is not able to cope with the logistics. Foreign oil is not going to get cheaper and the commitments to the environment are getting harder to satisfy. I really think it is a nation wide decision for all to comment on.

A stand MUST be taken. It is useless to pontificate until it is too late and people have suffered.

Well if anything new starts in our country for the country's safety the government should do it before letting everyone in the country use it...to see the side effects-like the advantage and disadvantage.....to see if it's useful or not.....

Hey, yea, um, I think that biofuels should definitely be made available in NZ, because although we are a very small country, I know that personally I would feel so much prouder if we were recognised internationally as an independent state. We would not have to depend on other foreign countries to have our every day needs produced and sent over here all the time, and then we wouldn't have a crisis every time other countries decide to have a world war! It would be more economically efficient for EVERY New Zealander, and depending if it better the performance of the actual engine, I'd say that a fair percentage of New Zealanders would definitely consider using it in their expensive cars, and more so if it is strategically proven by other countries. I think the government should definitely look at introducing it into our economy. That's all I have to say.

Why haven't we got a cleaner alternative to petrol/diesel? I think if we could somehow find a way to use things like vegetable oils to fuel our cars surely it would be cheaper than petrol.

In a country that whose main sustainable activity being Agriculture why we have have not gone down a biofuel option before now makes one wonder who runs this country

Tell me where I can buy it.

If they do allow bio fuel they should lower the road user charges

I believe that in today's world we need to keep an open and honest mind in considering and promoting efficient bio fuels. It may be in the monetary interests of global companies to suppress this type of innovative technology but at the end of the day, if you have no planet, what is the point of having a car. Stop thinking about the almighty dollar and think about our awesome and almighty planet.

We need to be moving ahead with our transportation issues and not dwelling on old ways and ideas. Provide us with alternatives, educate us with the required information. Plan for the future and take us forward.

Why are we not allowed to make a choice as to what we put into our modes of transport. Would not

cleaner fuels enhance our clean green image & imagine our public transport system actually being cleaner & better for the environment.

I think that we as a country that is seen to have the "clean green" image should be doing everything possible to introduce cleaner more efficient and friendly fuels. Everyone in every country should be doing all they can to ensure that the environment will still be able to survive for many generations to come. We should not only think of our own lives but for the future otherwise the earth will not be able to sustain life as we know it.

As a member of the public my concern is that biofuels haven't already been made available. It is generally accepted that fossil fuels will run out within a couple of decades and that we only have a decade or less to turn around global warming that could destroy life as we know it on this planet. I would think that making biofuels available is a logical and very easy place to start.

If the biofuels are cleaner, greener and cheaper as they are supposed to be motorists should be encouraged to use them. I feel that if they are available and are as good as they are made out to be I would be comfortable if the government of the day passed legislation to ensure that the biofuels are at the very least available at all service stations whether the oil companies like it or not.

It is vital for human survival that we look after our precious earth, so we need to take very seriously any alternative to the way things are now. If there are fuel alternatives that cause less harm to the world we need to use them NOW! The majority of wars, death and destruction in our midst are caused by the power and greed of the oil industry. Peak oil is a fact and the earth is being sucked dry. Lets do something about it, please!!

Yes i would like to know more about biofuel and why are country is not using it. Why do we have to pay a shocking price for fuel as in petrol in our country, when in fact the government is making alot of money on taxes from it... Kay Oldridge

Hi dear Organisations, I am very committed to having New Zealand CLEAN, GREEN and BEAUTIFUL forever. ANYTHING that will turn about pollution without any side effects harming the environment has my full co-operation and support. New Zealand, in the past, has always been a WORLD Leader in NEW Technologies, etc. WHY are we NOT already using BIOFUELS!!!!!!! The advantages seem to be widespread. Looking forward to filling up at my local Petrol/Biofuel station in the very near future!!!!!!!!!! Apart from using non-polluting ingredients, being locally produced etc. etc. i am all for using Biofuels because the cost MUST be cheaper. SO, WHAT ARE WE WAITING FOR??? LET"S GO FOR IT!!!!!!!!!!!!!! Cheerfully, Bobbie Aubertin Cheerfully

Seriously to save our countrys fresh air we should bring this biofuel out ASAP. Aswell as we should all be informed on how it is made/produced. THANKS

Its time that we need to think of alternatives to reduce the cost because its hurting our pockets and is a big hindrence to growth.

When is "biofuel" going to come out!

yes this must be good for the country as the fuel mus be made here that means more work for kiwis and it also means that we dont have to go with cap in hand to the big rich oil cos all the time pty we cant run the car on bio full time and not as an additave

My only concern is that I have heard that it cost more in fuel consumption to produce most biofuels than is saved at the pump. If i were convinced that they were economicaly and environmentally beneficial than I would undoubtedly use them and support their use

I thib\nk that it is more than time that this Government gets off its collective soapbox and safe options and does something constructive to get bio fuels going

I think the important thing we have to realise is that the increasing fuel prices are an early reminder that we are using up, by our use of petrol in cars, NON-RENEWABLE resources. Not only are we creating a society entirely dependent upon these resources, which will make our fall higher and harder, we are polluting the very environment from which we take. The environment, it seems, is being treated as though it is an endless supply of that which we need and a bottomless garbage bin, which will forever put the toxic gases we produce by our petrol burning out of sight and out of mind. In New Zealand, our pollution problem is not as vast as in Europe and in places such as Los Angeles, where the smog from car pollution becomes a visibility issue and a major health problem to the public. This is in part because of the winds over Auckland and Wellington, which do not allow the air to stagnate here. In this, we must be aware that just because our pollution does not knock on our doorstep, does not mean it is not contributing hugely to a growing global issue. What each consumer chooses to do still matters. And, I myself feel guilt each time I pick up the petrol pump.

Sure, my wallet hurts, but more importantly, I know I am contributing to the pollution our nation faces and am living by an ethos which takes no accountability for the way in which the environment is treated. Living in Auckland, however, and commuting from Titirangi to the central University is not an easy task without use of a car. Despite the options open in terms of public transport, their reliability is questionable, and in order to get to my two part time jobs I require the use of a car. Biofuel as an option would be a fantastic step forward for this country. Auckland is not a city well-designed to provide a public transport system. Auckland's growth was not well planned for, and thus our public transportation abilities will always be limited. If we want to live up to this clean green facade which New Zealand bases its tourism industry on, we need to adopt biofuel. At the current time, the onus is on the individual to undergo personal inconvenience in order to adopt a truly environmentally friendly lifestyle. I believe the government should take this onus upon themselves. Legislation is the key to making a difference.

There really is no excuse for not having already developed a thriving biofuels industry in NZ. Pull finger!

There are many sources of alternative fuels for our vehicles these inventions have been suppressed by the oil companies to enrich their own coffers. Resurrect these plans and put them into effect this will free us from dependence on the Middle East for our fuel the Arab world. By implementing these newer methods we here in NZ would be greatly advantaged in our balance of payments and all of us would be benefitted

Biofuels are but a step along the way to running everything from sunshine. The internal combustion engine is ok at the moment but I expect it to be superceded in the not too distant future and we should prepare for this and not spent too much on biofuel infrastructure. The best machines, vehicles, vessels and buildings are those which absorb all of their energy requirements from their surroundings.

I could be wrong but I assume that the technology is there to replace petrol with an alternative right now but that the oil companies with the co-operation of the Govt are milking the motorist to the max to get the maximum profit and tax. I also believe that the new product will not be introduced until petrol prices are beyond the reach of the average motorist and while the new product will retail for less than petrol, there will still be a "Charge the most the market can stand" pricing policy.

The question is when will the government see that we are not clean and green. And when will the government take some measures to change NZ into the country it used to be. I am totally for biofuel but would also like to see more research into solar energy cars. I know in the short term solar energy cars are of course not very attractive to the government as they can't make much money out of them, in the long term we will have a cleaner and greener environment which might attract a whole lot more industries and of course tourists. It also will have a spin off on the health of our people which is a huge cost to the country at the moment.

Biofuels do off course produce Carbon Dioxide and Carbon Monoxide when they are burnt, but they have used Carbon from the air when they have been grown. A better approach is Fuel Hydrogen cells which can run directly on Alcohol (Bio Fuels) and produce only water as a by product. Keep an eye on Icelands progress with these Fuel Cells.

I'd like to think that I wasn't an ignorant person. I also would like to think that I am well educated and up with the play. It blows my mind that I have never heard of biofuels. I can't understand why if there is a better solution to the current fuel available, why are we not using it? Whats the issue? Is it the government or the fuel companies that have the control here. What's next...

We need to- stop lagging behind other developed countries in implementing eco-efficient practices; become less impacted by offshore politics and resource availability and hence pricing - we are price takers in fuel costs; utilise our own waste products to produce energy alternatives and derive domestic production opportunities in doing this; provide citizens with responsible fuel options.

To ensure that there are resources available for future generations, we should consider \$\$\$ less and focus more on alternative ways of doing the things we are used to doing. Whether this is biofuels or managing water resources better, we have been too long generations of wasters. I the government that represents me, is voted by me, and is there to act for me to start thinking of me and not of its own importance!

When you decide to start incorporating biofuels into our fuel, I imagine there will be some information published for members of the public to read to get us up to speed. I beg you not to have any sort of marketing slant to that information. I want straight facts. That includes how

biofuels are sourced and what would have happened to those materials before it was decided to convert them to biofuels. If we are to actually grow crops specifically for biofuels I want to know how that affects production of food for human consumption, how the lands are managed in order for them to be sustainable, and where the lands are to be acquired, and what they were being used for before being converted to biofuel crops. In other words, I want total holistic information and not just a few factoids. Thank you.

It is most important to make the country self reliant on fuels. At one time we were 90% self reliant. No mention is made now about how much is produced in NZ. Obviously no where near 90%. I thought it was a bad decision to go ahead with the plant near Waitara to convert gas to petrol. It was quite an inefficient way to use the gas. I felt that CNG was a very good idea and was the most efficient way to use the gas and was more environmentally friendly than petrol. It is still currently available but not used in most major centres in the North Island. There would be no need for petrol tankers. I ran my car on CNG for many years and was completely satisfied with it. Sure the car's performance dropped off a bit but this was well compensated for by the fuel being cheaper and the engines lasting longer - because they were less stressed. I think it would be a good idea to follow Icelands lead and make hydrogen available as a fuel for transport purposes. They aim to make this their main fuel. Good luck with your submissions. We badly need some to get off their backsides and lobby the government.

I really think we should have safer cleaner cheaper fuel. So many movies these days are so true about the horrible things that could happen if we don't soon stop all this pollution. QUICK!!!

We have plenty of biofuel mix in this country and the government should be promoting its use.

I would like to see New Zealand in an active role researching and promoting alternatives to petroleum based fuels , and blended fuels, and feel that it is essential to have alternatives that are not so environmentally damaging.

i am involved with the earthrace ([www.earthrace.net](http://www.earthrace.net)) we are making a bid for the world circumnavigation record in a powerboat running on 100% biodiesel. not sure who commissioned this survey, but if you're a company involved in bringing biodiesel to market here in nz would like to talk with you cheers steve adams 021 22 44 865

It is in everybody's interest to provide bio fuels. If it can reduce the usage of imported fuels, is readily available, relative cost to the present prices and most importantly provides a cleaner environment it needs to be done now if overseas studies back this up.

If biofuel is so good, why are we not using it, It should be manufactured by the government and I believe operated at specific fuel stations. I would like to know how it will effect servicing and life of an engine etc

Any organisation has a moral duty to explain and justify their actions, intentions and omissions to all those whose quality of life (including that of future generations) is affected hereby.

Why is this not available already here in NZ? With the current climate, the greenhouse effect and the soaring price of fuel..is this not criminal? When will this be on the market? Or will this also be suppressed the the oil companies?

if it is going to be good for our air we should start to use it and it would in the long run cost us less than bringing oil into New Zealand.

come on get your behinds into gear and start making this stuff available

better in the future biopetrol .maybe not ...better flying car soon dont been petrol ....better air liquid for flying car better in the future.....

why are you taking so long to organize this, whats the problem We are dead beats sucking all this pollution, make a change now

As a diesel user I have been appalled to see the cost of this fuel rise at the same rate as petrol over the last 2 years. I think Government should be leading the way to getting the country independent from the huge reliance on importing oil. I heard of one government in South America who now grow some sort of plant from which they extract some sort of bio-fuel or oil which they use to make their country totally fuel independent. I wonder whether this sort of thing might be possible for us. I also heard of some new invention of using the algae from waste water and sewage treatment plants to add as a bio-fuel to diesel and wonder whether Government shouldn't be trying to sponsor those type of initiatives here.

I find it unbelievable that many average New Zealanders are not even aware of this alternative. It is

more unbelievable that it is still currently not an option, particularly with the price of gas increasing steadily whilst we remain at the mercy of the fuel companies.

All petrol companies need to be involved with the development of alternative fuels. We realise that you are profit orientated, but just imagine where your profits will go if the source of your supplies dry up in a short time frame without having the next phase of your retail trade ready for the consumer. With such a relatively small nation it would be a real step forward if New Zealand made the next big step forward in the area of 'FUEL'.

In this day and age we must examine all options open to us to find the best, most reliable and locally available fuels that we can. These should then be made available for widespread use by those who want to use them. Go for local product wherever it can be got from.

I believe that the government should take a pro-active stance in the development and distribution of bio-fuels and indeed any alternative fuel that is cleaner and greener than the current situation. Bear in mind though, that any alternative must also be priced competitively, because NZ's will not pay more for anything that something else will do for less money. The Kyoto agreement is a sham and NZ has been sold down the river by this government. In the end, my willingness to buy any alternative fuel will be governed purely by my financial position!!

The more research and development put into biofuels now could benefit us for future generations. So Government should be putting finance into these areas and not waiting.

If biofuels reduce our reliance on imports and can be produced from dairy by-products, why are we waiting!!! With a large dairy industry and clean green image of NZ, how unreal that we do not use this opportunity to our advantage.

I would like to think that NZ could start moving ahead and try the new Biofuel idea, at least we could say we tried, I am very unsure about letting the government have anything to do with it, due to them already putting taxes on our fuel we use now, going by past track record they would more than likely put a tax on the new fuel. Which I think is so unfair to the everyday NewZealander.

To whom it may concern, As a consumer I have been made aware of alternatives to fuel as I know it, that has been used and proven for their worth to the environment and economy for the countries that have been utilising its methods of manufacture. I would like to express my concern as to why we, (New Zealand), have not yet adopted this fantastic idea and would like to invite any reply to this matter. Yours sincerely Chervon Pia

Please give us the option of using biofuels

Moves to use alternative fuels in industry and public use are the way forward to meeting reduced greenhouse emission gas reduction required by joining the Kyoto Protocol. Particularly if the raw materials are produced in the country the fuel is used in. (Carbon sink). I am not a greenie but believe in the biofuel alternative.

The limitations of petroleum and the possibilities of biofuels are clear and obvious, but in New Zealand very little is currently being done about it. In the economic and environmental situation that we are in today, it is not only foolish to pay so little attention to the potential of biofuels but downright dangerous.

The limited alternative fuels in this country are a feature of the collusion and anti competitive behavior exhibited by the oil companies. Whilst they continue to make super normal profits they have no incentives to change their business structure to accommodate alternatives to oil. The current government is partially to blame due to its poor taxation policies that see them requiring extra taxation to fund blatant election year bribes (ie working for families and no interest student loans), they have a vested interest in letting oil prices and hence taxation (GST and petrol taxes) remain high. Fuel is a real issue to the New Zealand economy and unless the government puts some real effort into fostering an environment where innovation and alternatives are sought, New Zealand will fall further and further behind the rest of the developed world.

If biofuels are all this survey says they are, eg beneficial for people, the environment etc and not harmful to cars and to the best of everyone's knowledge they are not going to do any harm why on earth would we not use them?

I think if we spend all this money promoting NZ as being "clean and green" it is EMBARRASSING if we don't do something about cleaning up our fuel. If biofuel is introduced it should be subsidised by the government and more people would start using it straight away.

I think that you should use biofuels for the good of our country and the economy. You may well be surprised at how many people use them.

I believe the oil companies in NZ will need the same regulatory prodding that Telecom received over unbundling. There is no commercial incentive to invest in biofuel infrastructure, or it would have been done by now. Neither are oil companies noted for their social responsibility, nor environmental stewardship. Even the government is suspect in this respect. European countries are far further down the track of environmental responsibility because they cannot pretend what they do does not affect their neighbours. The westerly winds and surrounding oceans conveniently wipe up or absorb our noxious emissions with little apparent effect on the rest of the world. This is a conceit and a delusion. Everything we do affects nature and all other people. Its more difficult to see because of the scale of the emissions and the size of the landscape.

Let's get with the program and introduce biofuels to NZ. What are we waiting for?

Assistance should be made available to those who can provide "feed" to supply a biofuel

I believe biofuels will help to reduce co2 pollution and also help us reduce our overseas trade balance. However, I do think the fuel needs to be properly tested under NZ conditions and that the government or the Consumers Institutes needs to be involved in these tests.

Water is useable in motor vehicles, and also electricity - from solar energy. Why wont the oil companies allow these fuels to be used. The short answer is Money

If bioethanol fuels are an option in Aotearoa / New Zealand, why are we not all talking about it and why are such options not yet available at the petrol pump?

I would only buy if the price was the same or cheaper than normal petrol.

NZ is known and seen around the world as a 'green' nation, why not build upon this and introduce biofuel! Petrol prices are crippling this economy and the environment is choking with the abuse we are giving it using up fossil fuels and natural resources. The real question is why are we not using biofuel!?!? There doesn't seem to be any reason not to us it.

If its gonna be alot cleaner and greener for our country then for sure but also is it gonna be cheaper for our pockets or dearer.

Why are we not blending biofuels! This seems like a no brainer. Let's cut down our CO2 emmissions and rely less on imports ASAP!

I beleive biofuel will be beneficial to New Zealand with us being such a small country, we need to take care of our resources and utilise them to our best abiltities. With being in a business owning 6 vehicles, to have an ulternative fuel will also benefit ourselves and other transport business's.

It is time that New Zealand moved into the 21st century. Most other developed countries offer biofuel blends. We can reduce our reliance on overseas production of fuels and produce cleaner-burning fuels that are more environmental friendly. NZ has a reputation of being a clean, green country and this image has been tarnished in recent years by our refusal to move forward. Stop dragging your heels and move us forward.

I think that it is important to ensure the New Zealand consumer has a wide range of options when considering energy alternatives. We have the right to make cleaner choices in our fuel use, and as a developed nation we also have a responsibility to use decisions to effect change, acknowledging that for some other nations it is more difficult. I would definitely like to see biofuels become a part of our everyday life here. We deserve more choices..

Why aren't other fuel's available? Why isn't there a push on for car manufacturers and oil companies to invest in other forms of fuel - eg hydrogen cars etc.

I am absolutely flabbergasted that the government is not making a concerted effort to reduce our reliance on imported fuels! Surely a major effort could be made to bring bio-fuels on line as soon as possible? Not only would it help our balance of trade defecit by using locally produced fuels but it would also reduce polution and help us to reach our Kyoto Protocol requirements. Also, a graduated tariff on all cars (new or used) that are imported into the country based on the fuel efficiency of the vehicle could be used to subsidise fuel efficient vehicles like hybrids and small cars to make them more attractive. The government should also look at heavily subsidising LPG conversions as LPG is sourced locally. Not only do we want to reduce our reliance on overseas for our fuel but it is currently sourced from very unstable countries so the more we can source locally the better. NZ should even be able to one day be a world leader in bio-fuels and maybe be the one to export fuel to other countries!

I believe the main reason it is not being done now is that it is all about control and who has the most, gov't or petrol companies, they will find excuse's to put the petrol prices up higher if they

blend it to bio fuel, it's all a huge rip off, the tax on it and all these excuses. We have enough of our own fuel in the wells that have not been opened yet, this is being kept secret through a lot of red tape and it's all about keeping control. Nobody trusts the gov't or the companies to tell us the truth, I was here when the oil rig was here in 1974, I know they found oil, but it was all kept in secret, and we were told not to say anything. I was only a child but I remember it very clearly. Thanks.

Yes, I do believe this is a wonderful idea BUT why is it they are not using it at the moment. Maybe there is a downside that the public are not aware of. Once the public can get all information they can make a more informed decision. On paper it sounds good, but maybe the rust factor is of major concern.

We need to try a different way of thinking. Burning irreplaceable fossil fuels for fun will kill the planet. We need to get serious.

I would hope there is a genuine reason for not introducing biofuels - are they being withheld because of profit margins currently being attractive on traditional fuel???

We are currently facing two major crisis' with regards to our energy use for vehicles. Both of these are not mutually exclusive. The first being purely economic. The majority of people would be willing to explore new alternatives to using refined oil for their cars if they can save a buck. The secondly, and personally the most important is the effect on our environment that burning oil/petrol products has. The output of CO2 is very high, and with the development of China and India it is only going to increase. The world is saying that these two countries in particular need to decrease their output of CO2 emissions. I can not see this happening in the near future, like most people (educated or not) in developing nations, money and development is far more important than the environment. It takes developed nations such as New Zealand to lead by example to show that development and saving the environment can be achieved side by side. Sure we are only a small nation at the bottom of the Pacific but we have more of a political punch than any other nation our size in the world, particularly in the Asia/Pacific region. We must look to the future instead of focusing on the now. If we continue to use natural products in the way we do currently, we will face a much bigger economic crisis in 20 years when all the oil is running low. The environmental impact will not only damage our precious eco-systems but the economy also. If global warming has a profound impact, as some climatologists are predicting then the consequences on agriculture and farming will be devastating. Crops and grasses will not grow in the same manner as they are currently having a major impact on our dairy industry in particular. Surely it makes sense to spend a bit now on furthering our understanding through research into the environment and using alternative fuels, than facing a bigger crisis in the future which could have been avoided. Hindsight is a wonderful thing, but it is even more wonderful to avoid it by being prepared and showing the world how to do it from the front.

I feel that we (and I mean the government especially) are not serious about the environment --- otherwise the public would surely be fully informed about the pros and cons of such large-scale experiments as Brazil's use of alcohol as fuel.

Hello, I'd like to know, if it has a proven track record overseas, and has been found a viable solution to a worldwide problem, that we as of yet have not introduced this into a country which is seen to be, by most countries as a green, clean nation. I'd say, hurry up and start using it before we have to start upping the cost of our exports in order to cover the increasing costs of petrol requirements in transporting and construction. It's about time we introduced it, don't you think.

If we are to be seen as serious in promoting a clean environment, then why aren't biofuels being more actively promoted?

The fuel companies have been profiting for years by supplying a low standard of fuel and charging top grade rates for it

It would be interesting to know the impact of biofuels in NZ. Would Biofuels be economic for fuel companies and stations, what sort of investment is required etc. Obviously it has to be economic for the fuel companies, but we also have a social responsibility to all persons who live on this planet and if we can improve our situation, then we need to work towards better solutions. Secondly it would be nice to produce some of this biofuel in NZ, that has to be good for NZ. If bio fuels are available in NZ, I believe we need the vehicle manufacturers to get in behind it and openly say that their cars/models are able to run on that fuel

Biofuels will be a necessary way to go before too long. Cleaner, greener and less expensive. Why doesn't NZ get involved? We need to combat economic deprivation at the community level. Increasing concern over global warming and the security of mineral fuel supplies should be driving

the growth of the biofuel industry!

Why are we not doing this? If supposedly 'non-green' countries like the US are what is stopping us? The Govt needs to get hard on fuel companies.

I believe that it is essential that bio-fuels should be made available for use in New Zealand at the earliest opportunity. The government should take an immediate leading role in ensuring that this occurs.

The sooner we move to biofuel the better. We need to reduce our reliance on traditional fuel for various reasons, reduce fuel emissions, cut the reliance on a product that is dictated by the producer countries and the oil companies. The introduction of a local product would give us certainty of supply. A further spin off in the use of biofuels would be an increase in employment giving local people local jobs.

Why is NZ clean and green usually the last to uptake these changes?

Bio-fuels is a way I believe to improve our independence from the rest of the world. Being Green & still being able to turn a profit is a snub to the rest of the world, in saying that we don't need your dirty fuel, we have a much cleaner & stable alternative. My friends & I were considering going into producing bio-fuel for our own use, & of course trying to capitalise on the gap in the market. Then we considered the reality of the big boys rolling in & over the top of us. Bio-fuel rocks if there going to produce it locally it's good for our country if it's NZ owned.

As a mother of 3 and a husband with allergies and health problems myself I think biofuels would be a good alternative to fuel keeping a greener and healthier New Zealand.

I think biofuels should be introduced to NZ, Why not? If it will help with petrol prices being lowered and is more environmentally friendly I am all for it. Let the New Zealand public decide and go from there, or let us have a say at least!!!

Please ensure that petrol and diesel that include ethanol and biodiesel become widely available as soon as possible. I, my family and most people that I know would choose to use them.

Biofuels should be made more readily accessible and should be less expensive as the current price of petrol is beyond a joke. The government should be investing time and money into providing a less expensive fuel.

The oil companies and the government have the same attitude about biofuels as Telecom and the government had about the unbundling of the network. Neither will do anything about it until they are pressured by other biofuel producers and the public into doing it. However the NZ public is rather slow to protest. The complacent Kiwi is a very apt description.

What would happen if you mixed the normal fuel with the biofuel? If you went to the petrol station and still had a quarter of a tank and topped it up with the other fuel....what would happen? If it is produced locally - why is it not cheaper?

As a small country we need to look after it and, if biofuel can help achieve that, people should be given the choice to do their bit or not as they feel. We are currently being held ransom with the price of petrol and diesel rising considerably in the last few months. Unless more reserves are found soon, we may have no option but to use other fuels or go backwards in transport. It may relieve use of taxpayers' money for roading but do we want to leave that for our children and their children? What we do now will have a lasting effect on the legacy we leave behind us. For our generation the catch phrase may well be 'too little, too late!'

The survey is pretty leading in the way it promotes biofuels and then asks "Would you use these?". I don't know how scientifically valid the results are as a consequence.

Anything that improves the fuel crisis is worth investigating and trying, what have we got to lose? The price of fuel is far too high and surely with all this technology we have today we can find a more economical and environmentally friendly way to run our cars.

I think that we should go this way, to help the environment. Does it work out cheaper in the long run and does it work out cheaper for the consumer?

The problems for me is more about the out-put of greenhouse gases such as CO<sub>2</sub>. What impact does using biofuels really make on this? Or are we just moving from one bad idea and onto another in the hope that petrochem companies can stay in business. I would like to see that a non-polluting and environmentally beneficial and would even hope that not using cars that alternatives such as walking and biking are made easier and safer around New Zealand.

We have always been held ransom to the cost of fuels, then government put their cost on top and

then the fuel companies do the same. It is important that we produce our own biofuels from the dairy companies ethanol resources and keep our costs to the NZ public to a minimum and are being seen to comply with Kyoto policies

Price would be a major factor in whether or not I was willing to use biofuels. If it was cheaper than regular gas and I was convinced there was no reduction in performance or maintenance issues, I'd certainly consider it. If it was the same price as regular gas I don't see much reason in changing.

I think more concentration should be given to hydrogen. In a little country like Iceland, the main fuel for motor cars is now hydrogen. Cars still using petrol are taxed higher in that country. Forget about biofuels. It is a proven fact that cars can and are running on hydrogen. In N.Z. a minnie was shown on t.v, some years ago running on this fuel and I am told of two vehicles in the Wairarapa doing the same thing. Mazda in the states have produced one still on test. The main thing is, one has to use stainless steel for the fuel tank as the steel ones rust. The electro / chemical unit can not be all that big, otherwise how would you get it under the bonnet of a minnie as shown on t.v. It is my opinion that the Oil Companies are keeping very quiet on this, as they don't want anyone queering their pitch. (the minnie was in Christchurch)

I agree with locally produced biofuels IF: 1. The true facts are made public, showing that these fuels don't cost more than necessary to produce, proving more damaging to the environment than petrol fuels. 2, They aren't hijacked by politicians for their own means.

There are pros and cons for the biofuel system. Firstly, Biofuel would be an excellent alternative to what we receive now however I am not too sure whether biofuel is really the most economic and environmentally friendly answer. Secondly, if we were to use vegetable and oil fats as fuel then what sort of demand would be placed on that economy and/or resource? Thirdly, the government already recognises that we are in desperate need of environmental change however they will continue to support ideas that bring money into this country and I don't see them pushing this issue for years to come yet.

Over the past six months we have been trying to reduce our dependence on petrol and have succeeded reasonably well by reducing our petrol bill by about 1/3. We'd be happy to now try the switch to bio-fuel - it's probably a more expensive option but we look at it as "paying" for our grandchildren's future existence on this planet. As for the petrol companies - I think that you will be looked at in the future as one of the biggest "criminals" of our time - and will be regarded in much the same vein as tobacco companies (if you aren't already). You are destroying the earth for the sake of your bottom line - shame on you.

I am fed up with coughing and choking when I get even a small whiff of car exhaust fumes - esp. diesel. I feel so sorry when I see school children, those tiny 5 yr olds especially, waiting to cross busy roads, breathing in fumes. How on earth plants manage to flourish along roadsides is amazing - esp, as cows grazing close to roads have been found to have toxins from exhaust fumes in their milk. Its high time we cleaned up our act and switched to clean fuels that are not depleting non-renewable sources. There is no excuse - why are we not combining clean energy sources in new cars, like the new hybrid cars from Toyota - and including solar mounted panels to provide additional power. When are we going to get hydrogen fuel? Time to cut through the red tape and hype and put the environment ahead of profit, while there is still time to save the planet!!!!!!

We have an obligation to the rest of the world to meet our Kyoto commitments and keep up with other countries not involved such as Aussie and the USA. Producing our own local transport fuels will help reduce our trade deficit. Producing fuel from low cost organic residues is the way to go rather than using tallow and dairy wastes which have higher export values as other products such as soap and drinking alcohol. So why is our research focusing on these areas? Why doesn't our government think beyond their three year term and the next election and make a decision a lot of people are not going to like? The people who will complain are the ones who will complain anyway and forget all these things when they vote. We need an energy plan and we need it now. we are about to start suffering big time because we haven't had one for 20 years. Secondly why are putting so many trucks on the road wasting energy when we have a rail system which could easily save us money, our rail system should be fixed up as a PRIORITY.

I think biofuels are an excellent idea, and would be highly supportive of using them if there was solid evidence that they definitely reduce CO2 outputs, and are cleaner and greener overall to produce than fossil fuels. I wonder what issues there are with their production (e.g. solid waste byproducts or other problems)? I also think it's very important that they are proven not to damage engines more than other fuels. I'd also be interested in the environmental performance of NZ's vehicle

fleet being improved, so would be open to the gradual introduction of regulations to requiring new vehicles to use newer cleaner fuels and technology.

Please introduce more green fuels we all need to do our bit.

As a member of the general public I don't feel that I personally need the scientific knowledge. I do feel that I need to be able to trust those with that knowledge to be able to present it to me logically. We already know that we will leave the earth in a worse state than we found it. All governments should accept that good ecology starts at your back door. show me how I can help and I will.

I look hard at anything that makes life greener as the earth is only on loan to us. My son gained his World Conservation Badge from Boy Scouts and as a family we believe Green Is Clean!!!!

I would enjoy the option of cleaner greener fuel and would most definitely use it. As I understand the information I have so far been able to access, it sounds like a welcome relief to so many of our countries current problems. I am aware of the urgency to relieve the cost of fuel as well as the need to reduce the emissions into the atmosphere and thus feel the bio fuels option is perfect and seemingly affordable in production and running costs. I would urge you all in positions of influence to commit to doing something about this and look forward to seeing the optional fuels at a station near me soon. Thank you Kathleen Richards

We should have the opportunity to offer this in New Zealand

Just do it!!!!

bio fuel should be made available to all New Zealanders we should have a choice and be given all the information we need to make that decision, too much is kept hidden from us, and a lot of the cost of our petrol goes into taxes, so the more we pay the more the government gets, so they seem in no hurry to assist us to get cheaper fuel

It is an appalling situation that we are still using non renewable carbon based fuels when we know that oil supplies to NZ are at increasing risk as we approach peak oil (peak global production of oil), as well as contributing to a growing trade deficit and the output of green house gases threatening our climate. Biofuels are one of the answers. However, we must make these fuels without further prejudicing the environment, by first utilising waste products such as vegetable oils and left over plantation and industrial wood waste. Additional biofuels from crop production should be sourced from within NZ, not imported, to ensure acceptable environmental practices through the whole cycle. Paul Bruce

Get on with it - can not see the downside of having biofuels available to NZ drivers.

I think if this is available then the government and all concerned should be doing all they can to have this introduced!!!

I think that Biofuels should be available ASAP. The reason they are not available in New Zealand is surely because our government is making lots of \$\$\$\$\$\$ from the petrol and diesel now on sale. When the price of oil goes up that does only apply to the oil on it's way to NZ not what is already in the storage tanks at Marsden Point. It's about time our government was honest with the people of NZ.

Here in Nz we are known worldwide as supposedly being " clean and green" help us to ensure we can protect our environment for generations to come, it is small changes that are easily incorporated into our daily living such as the use of biofuels that can help us all to attain our goals. Mary Carraher 021480451

I think you have a responsibility to keep the people of NZ educated about cleaner safer options. I would like to know why we don't have them already in NZ and why we haven't heard of it? We are clearly moving towards a future of natural safe clean products, get onboard or get left behind. I would bet my bottom dollar that this survey will show that given the choice people will choose the natural option. Give us that option and you will remain financial as that seems to be the driver behind oil companies, politicians etc.

I was taught pollution is merely waste energy. In this country we pollute with huge amounts of recyclable or usable waste. Effluents, green waste etc can readily be turned into biofuels. A cow farts enough in one day to run the milking machines for her the next - so what about the excrement? European countries have been harvesting that for years so why don't we? I suggest it has been because of competition or the desire to constrain competition. A number of years ago (25+) we were involved in a growing trial of fodder beet, but just as positive results were coming to the fore the whole experiment was canned, presumably by government pressure, or at least that is

what we were told - why? A reusable resource with a clean, green product for fuel and reusable by-products as animal fodder - can't see why it cannot be cost-effective. It is not just the fuel companies who don't appear to want the competition, but also the other energy providers such as electricity. They can all use these wastes or specifically grown energy crops.

I think its important to consider other fuel options, especially ones that may help slow down the harm done to our environment through greenhouse gases, and also make use of waste products eg fats/oil in a positive fashion. Who knows? It may even help lower the costs of fuel!

1) We need to have every piece of info on BioFuels available so we can judge the worth of it 2) We need to be sure of the veracity of all information thus it should be vetted by an Independent Body (Consumers Inst.)not the Oil Companies, not the Green Lobby and not the damn Govt. either. 3) Help the Country and the Punters be empowered to support good decisions

I think we should definitely go ahead with using biofuels. Not only will they aid in the decline of diminishing oil sources but they'll be better for the environment. New Zealand is known for its clean green image and I'd like it to stay that way for as long as possible!!

yes biofuel should be aloud in nz.

Give us a real choice. I am not particularly `green' but I would prefer to use green options wherever there are choices and the green choice impacts so minimally on our lives. Whether you believe in global warming or not - it makes sense to me to do this.

Isn't this an obvious way to reduce CO2 emmissions given that the biofuels have taken CO2 out of the atmosphere in the first place? An incremental step towards renewable energy.

To the petrol companies and Refinery: You pricks are ripping us off big time. Record profits for both the suppliers and refineries. How come in other countries eg Australia they have ral competition with the prices changing many times per day not staying the same for weeks on end AT EVERY STATION IN THE SAME TOWN. You pricks are obviouly colluding. I would run my car on nuclear power if I could stop paying you colluding, rip-off artist pricks and I HATE NUCLEAR POWER.

Frankly I cant believe that this country does not have bio fuels available as an option. For a country which depends so much on imported petro products , which take up such a large percentage of our overseas funds the country earns through exports surely we should take every measure possible to reduce the amount we use and to reduce the emissions from said products

New zealand is very reliant on imported fuels, these are costly and the prices unstable. We need to be more pro-active in the field of research and development of alternative fuels. This is an area where we seem to lag behind the rest of the world and we can no longer turn a blind eye to our dependancy on imported fuels or to the need to go greener .

I think we should stop destroying our planet and our environment and do something about it!! The human race has destroyed the atmosphere and our planet so much, and we have the chance to do something about it by using cleaner greener fuel, even the solar powered cars would be better than all the fumes from the petrol.

I am happy with the introduction of biofuels but am concerned that all Japanese imports are unable to run on them as the are nto made for biofuel blending

with the price of petrol as they are, why hav'nt petrol companies spent a little at keeping the enviroment a little more greener. It may even help the earths resources last a little longer & would'nt that be great for the generations to come. Look we are all responsible to look after our mother earth & if everyone just did a little bit how much of a impact would it have?

I would like to know how much tax of regular fuels is used to research alterative fuels and is the goverment (whichever one is in power at the time) just waiting until they can make any more money before they seriously research and invest in alternative fuels.

Why are we not using cleaner and greener fuels if they are better for us and our invironment?

If these fuels have been well and truly proven why is it taking so long for New Zealand to be a part of this?

I think alternative fuels are extrememly important not just because of the huge environmental savings but because of our currently level of dependence on oil prices. This is a cause of stress for everyday NZers - not knowing what the future could hold because the price could just keep going up and we are all stuck with whatever the companies want to charge.

The new Fuel and the functions,the plus points n the negetive points must be made known to the public before it is introduced in the market.

If bio-fuels are available in Aussie and will cut the cost of fuel importation in NZ what are we waiting for. They can only be good for the environment. Or is there something about them we don't know? If they are as good as they say, why are we dragging the chain?

Please consider our future and provide us with cleaner fuel. Its a must for our environment and our childrens health.

I would like to know the reason why the NZ Government is not considering Biofuels?

I would like to see the development of some local fuels that are less dependent upon overseas countries and led us towards self sufficiency and sustainability. Why is this taking so long?

If biofuels have all the advantages suggested in the survey, then it is astounding that no-one has tried to introduce it here. I am wondering what the disadvantages are -- the way you have presented it, demands the answer "Yes, let's go for it". But there are few things in life that are completely advantageous and not in any way detrimental. So let's have the 'cons' as well as the 'pros'.

I am quite disgusted that there is an actual alternative fuel available with many positive solutions to many problems present in NZ yet it is not actively being promoted or made readily available for NZ'ers. If the fuel is indeed cleaner and more healthier for the environment, reduces the control over our economy by overseas markets, no more expensive than current fuel prices, needs no further adjustments/modifications to motor vehicles etc - what is the hold up. I say give us 'BIO FUEL" - NOW!!!

The only way to sell a new product is to inform people so they believe in it. Information and knowledge is power. The product would need to be widely advertised before hitting the market in this case as how many of us will just 'take a chance' with putting something new in to our cars that we know virtually nothing about?? Perhaps also consider 'trustworthy' people to endorse this product too. Maybe for a product such as this is would be the motor industry (dealerships as in Holden, Toyota, Mitsubishi etc), high performance car people, motor-racing etc. "Top Gear" and watched predominantly by men who believe the opinions and advice of these hosts. Any chance of the hosts of that show promoting this product?? "Males" are the target audience for your product (unless a female is a complete motorhead) and as a female, when it comes to cars and how to maintain them etc, we will take advice from our men about this every time!! (Then we can blame them if something goes wrong!!) Lorinda Earl 89 Sunset Road Glenfield Auckland Ph (09) 444 8565

We need to have an alternative to the 'common' fuel we use. Due to the pricing of fuel and importing costs etc which the government should be absorbing some of, we need a product that can be produced in New Zealand and is kinder on the environment

The Biofuel industry should NOT be using animal products, but focus solely on using plant material.

I think Biofuels is the way of the future, lesser emission fumes and toxicity. A great alternative to petroleum and Diesel. The question we all ask is - what happens when the oil runs out? would there be another war? will there be unnecessary fighting over oil/fuel? We should rely on other resources which are better for the economy and the world at hand. We only have one world, without it there wouldnt be any of us. We are destroying our precious earth with our toxic pollution, it must stop this is why Biofuel is a great alternative.

I believe it is high time we as a nation came together to form a good country to live in, one that is as we advertise it, Clean, Green and with a reputation for being one of the best countries in the world to bring up children. Ensuring our atmosphere is as unpolluted as possible is one way to achieve this. More needs to be done by all. Money should not be the sole objective in running a business, or a country. People and Nature is what life is all about. Let's give our children the best start that is possible and teach them to carry on that tradition. Look at the alternatives BEFORE it is forced upon us by disasters. Just look at the state of Auckland yesterday (Monday 12th June) when one power cable went down...a disgrace. The government needs to take back control of all the essential utilities.....these should not be in the hands of private enterprise. Yours sincerely Mary M Tonner

If it helps fuel economy yes.

Locally produced biofuels which decrease our dependance on oil imports and also reduce harmful emissions should be a top level priority for all political parties.

Our older diesel 4WD was affected by the diesel change Belatedly we found out there was an additive we could have used to prevent the pump damage This was not mentioned in the public information While the aim of the change was admirable, the way it was changed cost individuals a

huge amount of money, devalued vehicles etc and there was insufficient capacity in the repair industry to cope with demand. It is surprising that this change was implemented yet biofuels have not been given the risks and rewards. I would not tolerate a repeat of this implementation. It left us with a vehicle we could not afford to repair or sell. It leaked diesel everywhere and caused pollution rather than preventing it. I was tempted to park it on the doorstep of the agency responsible!

If you look overseas at the pollution from vehicles the answer is obvious that we must change and try to reduce the effect of vehicle pollution before it becomes a major health risk. NZ has always promoted a 'Clean, Green Image' so lets protect our Tourism, People's health and put NZ on the map as a country trying to do our share to protect the environment.

Yes, i would be very interested in using biofuels as long as all adverse side effects were checked.

Yes I would like to know why we do not already use biofuels? Why hasn't the Government to date put in place a strategy for petrol companies to start using these biofuels within the next 24 months? Here we are trying to tell the world we are 100% Pure and yet we do not use biofuels? Biofuels that are cleaner and green AND are able to use locally produced bi-products of the dairy industry (eg bioethanol for the use in petrol) or animal oils and/or fats (for use in diesel). How come our government doesn't enforce the large petrol companies to implement 5-10% biofuel standards well known internationally as Biofuels are cleaner and greener?

To promote a greener NZ and meet the Kyoto accords it is imperative that we move rapidly toward biopetrol etc. An absolute minimum % should be put in place ASAP

Encouraging the use of Biofuels is an important way in which New Zealand can go towards improving it's ability to fulfil it's obligations to the Kyoto Protocol, and also to be less reliant on petroleum products.

Yes get off your arses and give us fuel alternatives to reduce our dependance on fossil fuels

The Government isn't handling the fuel crisis in a way to stop inflation increases. The road users are being ripped off. The agricultural industry cannot sustain increasing inflation, without being rewarded for the effort involved in producing clean green products. Large industries are dominating with greed, the world wide budgets without consultation from the end user. There are too many levels of industry taking the middle mans cut. NZ linked with Australia should be producing our own fuels, amongst other things.

If biofuels prove good for the environment, cheaper at the pumps and safe for my car i am all for it

I think it is important for New Zealand to look at alternative ( Healthy) fuels. Also anything manufactured here in NZ will help with the economy not just form import and foreign exchange issues but for the local economy of people working in NZ. NZ shouldn't be so reliant on the economies around the world and what may happen to them. And if we have excess then we can export it to other countries. Help keep NZ green, keep NZers working. Give us ownership of our resources. Thank you.

I am particularly interested in the development of bioethanol production from Apples as there are significant tonnages of apples wasted on orchards ,or sold for processing at uneconomic returns . NZ has the technical skill and commercial experience to rapidly develop the bioethanol industry and this should be fast-tracked ,with Govt. incentives at all levels of development.

I think if the technology and the product 'Biofuels' are locally available which are proven safe to use; we should have access to purchase the it. A bigger incentive for people to purchase it is if the price of Biofuels are a little lower than the standard fuels. We are supposed to be a Clean Green Country. I have noticed the air over the last ten years is more smoggy especially on cloudy, cold winter days. We need to take action now for the benefit of our future health and our future environment!

Bio Fuels appear to be a sensible option to fuel crisis. Why are we not better informed and why is there no core group gearing up to get this up and going?

I think it is about time New Zealand, and the world, invested in it's future, to ensure the survival of the human race, along with every living thing on the planet, including the planet.

I think that NZ should be make an enthusiastic, educated and well over due effort to introduce biofuels. We love to dwell under the umbrella of the "clean green" image, but as we continue to find out, life underneath the umbrella isn't as clean or green as it is made out to be to the tourists. If the rest of the world is heavily involved in biofuels why aren't we?????????????

I feel the government should be actively focusing on every opportunity to make our fuel more

healthy and sustainable.

If the petrol is made from recycled stuff-why does it still cost the same or more, why is it not cheaper, especially if we cut down on importing, etc. If it does become available in NZ it should be placed at convenient spots like at all the existing petrol stations as another option to customers. More advertising should be done about it so people are aware of the upsides and downsides of this petrol.

To Whom it May Concern: It would be wonderful for NZ Fuel prices if there was an alternative. But I would only feel good about using this if there was adequate research done and there was strong governmental support and advertising for this i.e. a marketing campaign to all households stating the pros and cons. But I wouldn't use this fuel unless I felt confident that it wasn't going to do damage to my car as I rely on it daily. But it seems that NZ should look into this. If we promote a clean, green environment shouldn't we be looking at all aspects of this?

The government is needs to seriously consider an alternative like this. As a person originally from Wellington but currently in Auckland, I feel not enough is done about the pollution problem present in Auckland. As a pedestrian it is very difficult for me to walk around Central City because it is too polluted and gives me a headache. Opposition parties need to stop harping on about "I'm not spending MY tax dollars for those chumps in Auckland". Most tax payers ARE from Auckland so why shouldn't we benefit and get the air cleaned up?

I feel that people are not thinking enough about conserving the world's petrol supplies which are being used up faster and faster, with China's demand expected to increase dramatically in the near future. Anything we can do or implement to extend these supplies should be given urgent consideration. It is difficult to imagine what the world will be like when all the petrol supplies are exhausted. Suddenly the big O.E. will be no longer possible unless we have found alternative fuel. What about emergency services like ambulance, fire & police? We need to act now. Also there surely must be some after-effects from removing all this oil from the inside of the earth. Could it cause more earthquakes or Tsunamis? It must be there for a reason.

I would like to see more effort put into bring the availability of biofuels more quickly to the public, plus, keep the prices down, that way I am sure more people will use biofuels

Keep it clean and keep it cheap

the sooner the governments and the people of the world realise that there are alternatives to fuel the better off the planet will be.

I think it's well past the time the government looked to invest in our country's economy in a way that affects a majority of the population for a change. I think bio-fule is very important, a lot of people are trying a variety of options at a lower cost than imported, enviromentally damaging products. It's also a way to take care of waste from the likes of MacDonalds and other 'oil' products.

It only takes one person to say yes or no and the rest will follow... Whatever happened to personal choice and caring for the environment? What will happen to our children's children's children's children's children? I would sure love to see that being advertised than the BRANGELINA SBE !!

This is clearly a no-brainer (& if it's not to a select few, then they need more info). Everyone would benefit from a fuel that was eco-friendly & that we didn't have to import, as then there'd be more employment available (or would assume)! An even bigger bonus & bigger incentive, would be if it was produced here it may be cheaper than readily available fuel. This should be a focus when considering it, as I'm sure everyone that has to fill up & fork out for the prices we pay right now, all feel ripped off, regardless of who's rippin us off!

WHY are we always last??? "Clean green NZ" should be one of the first for something like this! Looks like the fuel companies haven't found a way to make this expensive enough to offer us yet... Most of us will be walking soon anyway because families can barely afford petrol anymore since petrol keeps going up and wages don't. Soon we will have to stop work because 50km is too far to walk to work!

To make a decision on biofuels I would need to have information not only about the potential benefits but also potential costs/disadvantages so I can weigh these up in my own mind - i.e. make a decision based on full information. Biofuels sound good in theory but I'm sure there are some points about them that aren't so great - the brief mention earlier that they can cause corrosion in older cars if a high proportion is used is one example.

Hi, Coming from Africa where BioFuel is already used there in '3rd World' nations with great results I have often wondered why a Blend of fuels are not used here. This would reduce costs at the pump

and also reduce the dependence on imports. Most biofuels are available from vegetable by-products - ethanol from sugar cane / sugar beet etc. Is the fact that we don't use bio fuels just a case of 'too proud' or 'too politically wired' or just too scared to try something different. Come on please do something now - an alternative has to be found.

What is the reason we are not doing anything about the biofuel blending with our normal fuel?! If I am right in saying this. Does this not mean less fuel needed, therefore cost drop too. If it shows so popular elsewhere, why is it not utilised here too? Thank you. Vlad..

It just makes sense to initiate biofuel consumption in New Zealand. Why is this not happening? - I'm sure the benefits surely outweigh the negatives! New Zealand is seen as "clean and green" and yet it is way behind in terms of the biofuel issue. Let's make a cleaner New Zealand, and a greener New Zealand for real.

I live in Christchurch and am very aware of environmental pollution from car exhausts - especially during the winter. If using bio-fuels could help reduce smog levels then can only be good for the environment as well as for human immune systems.

Let's lead the charge with alternative fuels. As a country that not only prides itself, but markets all of our primary industries on being 'clean and green' as a point of difference, it's time to invest in technology that will live up to these claims.

To Whom It May Concern, I strongly believe that as a member of GodsOwn country, and in attempting to be cleaner and greener that we should pursue environmental concerns such as the use of bio-fuels with zest. In the light of current information including the just released movie "An Inconvenient Truth" by Al Gore, (see <http://www.climatecrisis.net/> for more info) and our current and continuing oil shortage, we have a strong vested interest in bio-fuels. NZ has, just under Stewart Island a \$1628 billion dollar untapped oil field which I think the Government should also oversee similar to Think Big. That resource should be carefully utilised to our and the environments gain, and to prevent non-NZ ships from gaining regular access. If this is not done, Antarctica could be in imminent danger as another great resource for oil, and ecological disaster would be the only result. I am proud to be a New Zealander, I believe we should stand together for greater economic and environmental benefit as inspiration and example to the World of our innovation and environmentally sound policies. Regards, Phillip Bridge Director Electric Life Ltd. / Absolutely Essential Ltd. PO Box 91124, AMSC Auckland 1030 P: 09 2700779 M: 027 4426159 E: phil@bodycorp.com

We have a Christchurch based company in this Country. Indranet who have in existence a car that is run on air, in conjunction with a Paris based vehicle producer. So why isn't this receiving Government approval. We will run out you know and it will be the end of life as we know it today

It seems reasonable and logical to provide biofuels to the New Zealand public. Not only will it reduce carbon dioxide emissions that affect the ozone it will also reduce the emissions that the public breathe in on a daily basis. I can't say that I know all that much about biofuels but if it is safe, economical and better for our environment then it makes sense to give us the option of using it. This country promotes a clean green image how about we be allowed the chance to prove it.

would biofuel be good for all types of mazada's and cheaper?

It is extremely important the NZ government "assists" the petrol industry with introducing biofuels, to reduce our dependence on overseas supply and limit the affect that rising fuel prices are having on our economy and business growth.

I think the use of biofuel in NZ would be much more effective than the fuels we are using at the moment. NZ is a beautiful green, lush country, we don't want the Greenhouse effect to destroy this because we did not try this alternative. Lets contribute to having a safer environment for all. Jenny Faatafa 54 Glenbervie Crescent, Massey Auckland

I believe Biofuel should strongly be considered for the NZ market. Due to the number of cars on the road, lack of public transport, and infrastructure, we need to investigate biofuels. If other countries are, why aren't we? I understand that our population is smaller, but we all know it is only going to grow and there, we should start now before it's out of control and our air is as bad as other over populated cities around the world where it can even be hard to breathe (speaking from experience)

I believe fully in the use of Biofuels. HOWEVER, the issue I have - and one which affected my answers in the previous survey questions, is that I am a vegetarian. If biofuels were made from animal extracts, I would have a 'difficulty' in bringing myself to using them, despite their obvious benefits to the environment. If I could be assured that biofuels were made from plant extracts (the

information given in the survey brief stated plant and/or animal extracts) then my answers to the survey would be different - they would have my full support and I would use them above any other fuel. Perhaps a question regarding 'why would you be hesitant' could have been included! Thank you.

Our country needs a fuel alternative. We seem to have the reputation of one of the most laughed at "developed" countries (including phone charges). I don't think it should be as much as petrol or diesel, because I have heard that in other countries it is a cheaper alternative. Diluting fuel will put back the estimated date for global run out, I can't remember how far away it was estimated to be but it was definitely within my life time. And the government should definitely be funding the project, they have done near NOTHING since the last election! I am rapidly losing confidence in our country's government.

The Big Question, is it going to be cheaper, the same, or more expensive? Sorry, but it always comes down to the mighty \$\$\$\$

I think that the fact we haven't done anything in New Zealand to provide biofuel blends is almost as shameful as the Oil industries buying up and nopping of Hydrogen fuel cell technology to ensure their own future astronomical profits. We have the ability and knowledge to provide free and clean fuel technology globally and have not been able to progress with this because money is more important. Biodiesel blending would go some way towards retrieving our increasingly tarnished "clean, green" image

I think that the introduction of Bio Fuels is getting to the stage that it should have happened yesterday rather than tomorrow Our dependence on imported fuels is getting beyond our means and eroding the average NZers ability to enjoy the lifestyles to which we are accustomed. The delay in oil research in NZ is also way behind the times, adding costs to an already inflated commodity. Lets get on with it and stop bowing to the cash rich oil companies

I would be more than happy to switch to biofuels, preferably as long as the source plant/animal material was not a genetically modified organism, and the emissions are the lesser evil of regular petrol or biofuel blends. In saying that, I hope to make my next car purchase a petrol-electric hybrid to further reduce my emissions and use of petrol based fuels. Public transport (trains) is my main mode of transport at present (week day commuting), with the family car second.

i think that we as a small country need to be seen as pro-active and looking to our future as a nation.....kiwis are and have been in the fore front of many different cultural , scientific , musical , artistic aspects of the world.....we are small but if the words we speak impart knowledge and better our country as a whole the way forward is a well lit path!!

I believe that any fuel that is going to help our ecosystem is worth trying and plus if it is going to be more cost effective for the consumer why not. Why have we not changed over?

living in Taupo there has been talk about a Biofuel Industry, using run off hot (thermal) water to increase growth of the re-newable source. It has been considered but they NEED Government backing before anything can happen.

The introduction of Biofuels to New Zealand is a vital mechanism for preparing for future challenges. We as a country are already very far 'behind the eight ball' in preparing for the future petroleum shortfalls, and biofuels would be a positive step in the right direction.

hopefully will keep the cost of fuel down

The development of biofuels and, specifically biodiesel, is very important in New Zealand both for the farming industry and tourism sector. Unproductive agricultural and pastoral land could be used for growing biofuel crops. There is huge potential here for farmers.

If this product is already being used in other countries and has good feedback then I can't see why not. If it is being enhanced by our own natural products and is going to be cost sufficient then it would be a benefit for New Zealand.

This is your big chance to show you are not entirely profit driven.....or are you? What are you waiting for?

I believe on every level NZ should be implementing this alternative fuel source. Especially with our "Clean & Green" image we put on for the rest of the world, surely we should be a front runner, not dragging our feet. We have led the world in so much but our "green" image is really quite black when you scratch the surface.

I think legislation is needed to speed up the r & d for these products and with a high priority. NZ

and the oil driven economies of the world would sink into calamitous depression if real war broke out across the middle east so everything should be done to make us less oil dependent. Biofuel is only part of the answer. How about electrifying the railways or at least use biofuel as an example on the existing railways. Increase solar use and wind power, the cleanest and greenest energy sources. If Rutherford was able to split the atom, the collective brains of our brightest scientists should be able to develop many sources of fuel, biofuel is just a a start

anything safer for ozone and pples health would be great

as the petrol companies are always telling us that they are only reacting to the events around the world surely having 5-10% of the product produced in nz is a plus not only for the motorist&the enviroment but also the petrol companies.