2025 consultation

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Submission to Net Zero Commission NSW Consultation (2025)

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Executive Summary

As the Founder of Zilch Forwarding and Laderen Metrics, I submit this paper to share practical insights on how our businesses can materially contribute to the decarbonisation of transport and the improvement of emissions monitoring across New South Wales.

With over 25 years in global logistics and 9 years specifically in transport emissions reduction, my focus has been on delivering commercially viable, data-driven solutions to accelerate sustainability outcomes. We work across industries such as construction, agriculture, fashion, and clean tech, helping clients meet emissions goals while improving operational outcomes.

Response to Key Questions

Question 9 – What are likely to prove the most effective approaches to accelerate rapid decarbonisation across freight and passenger transport?

1. Freight Emissions Visibility Must Come First:

One of the biggest gaps in freight decarbonisation is a lack of visibility—businesses simply don't know what's driving their emissions. Through **Laderen Metrics**, we've developed a transport emissions reporting platform that uses data already held by freight forwarders, 3PLs, and shippers to generate mode-specific, shipment-level emissions data aligned to ISO 14083. This improves accuracy and enables effective supply chain engagement and decision-making.

2. Zero Emissions Logistics as a Service:

At **Zilch**, we go further—by not just reporting emissions, but actively offering clean logistics services via optimisation and carbon insetting solutions. We're operationalising what "net zero transport" looks like in practice, helping partners such as fashion brands, agricultural exporters, and medical device manufacturers.

3. Model for Industry Adoption:

Our combined offering of insight (via Laderen) and execution (via Zilch) provides a replicable framework that could be scaled across sectors, especially with government support to accelerate low-emissions procurement in public infrastructure, construction, and agribusiness.

Question 22 – What should be included in a monitoring framework for NSW in the context of the transition to net zero?

• Scope 3 Transport Emissions Tracking:

NSW's monitoring framework should mandate or strongly encourage consistent Scope 3 reporting, particularly for transport. Too often, this is estimated using generic emission factors which lack precision and fail to reflect real opportunities to improve.

• Data Interoperability & Baseline Integrity:

Laderen's approach enables integration of shipping data from multiple sources (ERP, freight forwarders, carriers), ensuring a defensible emissions baseline and supporting future audits or Climate Active certification.

• Use of Decision-Grade Metrics:

Emissions data must drive action—not just compliance. Our tools enable scenario modelling (e.g., route optimisation, shift to rail/electric) so clients can move from "what are my emissions?" to "how do I reduce them?"

Question 2 – What actions can the commission take to engage across the community to help drive the shifts needed for the net zero transition?

- Partner with solution providers like Zilch and Laderen to create **case studies**, **trials**, **and benchmarks** that show what good looks like in freight emissions reduction.
- Develop **sector-specific decarbonisation playbooks**, including clean transport procurement templates, emissions reduction ROI modelling, and supply chain collaboration models.

• Establish an **open reporting API** to which private emissions calculators like Laderen can feed accurate transport emissions data for inclusion in the broader state inventory.

Closing Statement

The time for action in transport is now. The tools, data, and service models exist—what's required is a shift from high-level discussion to operational execution.

Zilch and Laderen are ready to help NSW lead the way in turning net zero ambition into measurable, material progress in one of the most stubborn sectors: freight transport.

Kind regards,

Michael Blake

Founder & CEO

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