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<b>A climate law like the Zero Carbon Act is important because...</b>	The ecology of the world is being destroyed by human activity. Anthropogenic climate change is beyond dispute. Wildlife has been, and continues to be, crushed while humans multiply like a virus (cf Agent Smith in The Matrix!). 10,000 years ago, humans made up 1% of the weight of vertebrate land animals: the rest were all wild. Today, wild animals make up just 1%. The other 99% is humans, our farmed animals and our pets. The world's renewable resources (forests, fishing, etc) are being gobbled up at 1.7 times the rate that they can be replenished. It has been estimated that the world's soils are good for only another 60 harvests. THIS MUST STOP.
<b>Long-term target</b>	I support the most ambitious target of reducing total greenhouse gases to net zero by 2050. I also support taking a science-based approach to ensure our efforts to reduce emissions are as impactful as possible: we should aim for negative levels of long-lived gases, while reducing short-lived gases to sustainable levels. This target should be reached by reducing our own emissions and not by using international carbon credits.
<b>Climate Commission</b>	I support the establishment of an independent Climate Commission that is made up of experts and provides advice, but does not make final decisions.
<b>Adaptation</b>	I support a plan for adaptation being included in the Zero Carbon Act.
<b>Climate justice</b>	A Zero Carbon Act must be just and fair in that it ensures a just transition for workers and communities; and avoids passing on the costs to future generations.
<b>Further comments</b>	We're looking at 2050 - about 30 years from now. 30 years ago, say 1990, NZ's population was 3.41 million. Today it's about 4.87 million. That's an average compound growth rate of 1.2%p.a. If we extend the same growth rate for the next 30 years, then by 2050 NZ's population will be about 7.0 million. That's a cumulative growth of 43%. So the challenge of cutting emissions to zero will have grown by 43% if we do nothing now. In other words the entire project needs to be adjusted so that every aspect of emissions cutting is viewed on a population-adjusted basis so that it's all per-capita. And it must be recognised that every year that a zero per-capita emissions economy does not exist, the problem will grow. It follows that a crucial part of a zero-emissions strategy is to limit population growth, ideally to zero. Adding more people to New Zealand merely expands the quantity of the living, not the quality of life.