

<b>Name</b>	Rob Harris
<b>Email</b>	
<b>Town / City</b>	
<b>Phone</b>	
<b>A climate law like the Zero Carbon Act is important because...</b>	<p>It provides direction for the economy. It provides constraints and incentives. The industries we depend on food, fibre, building materials, luxury experience, traditional culture, education, bio/chemical/genetic industries all depend on doing more with less, establishing an added value niche and backing this with increasingly smart green technology. High carbon enclaves are unsustainable in the current world environment. Of course this piece of legislation can only provide a framework for directional change - spending on education, new technology, better land management, more sophisticated resource management is also necessary to underwrite a zero carbon approach. However, what we do need to see is ways of measuring progress - mixed indicators, some measuring increased carbon absorption, some measuring reductions in lifecycle carbon for materials, some measuring land management practices in terms of their ability to reduce and capture (especially soils and plantation and native forestry), some measuring carbon use for transport, some measuring overall carbon loss to the atmosphere from building categories, etc. This should also be linked to CPI as a carbon index figure, which should increasingly be a minus. Other hopefully negative fall environmental factors such as N &amp; P loss (based on key measurement sites) should also be indexed to CPI and possibly published alongside GDP on a quarterly and annual basis. I generally don't support the carbon trading market, which has always been easy to rort and will remain so given our relatively small involvement in the market and the untrustworthy way it is operated by larger players. At best it is a minor mechanism, but not one to be relied on to achieve significant changes in how we operate our productive and domestic activities and how innovative we become. Reliance on carbon markets have arguably slowed our technological progress by more than a decade.</p>
<b>Long-term target</b>	<p>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.</p>
<b>Climate Commission</b>	<p>I support the establishment of an independent Climate Commission that is made up of experts and provides advice, but does not make final decisions.</p>
<b>Adaptation</b>	<p>I support a plan for adaptation being included in the Zero Carbon Act.</p>
<b>Climate justice</b>	<p>A Zero Carbon Act must be just and fair in that it honours Te Tiriti o Waitangi; ensures a just transition for workers and communities; and avoids passing on the costs to future generations.</p>
<b>Further comments</b>	<p>anything that comes out of this legislation should be clear; be backed by measurements, integrated into our economic measurements, avoid complex regimes, set achievable goals and be backed by a range of pathways for getting there.</p>