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A Zero Carbon Act is important to me because...	I want to minimise climate disruption that will be suffered by my children and I think we need to focus on the issues now rather than kicking this can (of worms) down the road. I believe it will also stimulate creativity, give some certainty to business and encourage those who are trying to do the right thing and feel they are swimming against the tide.
Q1. What process should the Government use to set a new emissions reduction target in legislation?	The Government should set a target for 2050 in legislation now with lots of smaller targets along the way.
Q2. If the Government sets a 2050 target now, which is the best target for New Zealand?	The most ambitious target: 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.
Q3. How should New Zealand meet its targets?	By using domestic emissions reductions only (including from new forest planting). (Individual fossil fuel ration cards may be the fairest way to balance the onus on people, so there could be a tiny carbon marketplace as well as an international one and perhaps a certain amount of that could be sold by an individual to someone else). I also think there should be a campaign to encourage smaller families with perhaps tax breaks only available for the first two children (or births, in the case where the second birth produces multiple offspring). All unbuilt on land that is good for cultivation should be protected and not built upon and good soil maintained there as soil can suck up carbon well. This could be a great way to mitigate what carbon we do use.
Q4. Should the Zero Carbon Bill allow the 2050 target to be revised if circumstances change?	The 2050 target should not be altered in response to “economic changes” as this undermines its long-term certainty. However, the ability to revise the 2050 target in light of major changes in scientific understanding or international agreements should be permitted.
Q5. The Government proposes that three emissions budgets of five years each (i.e. covering the next 15 years) be in place at any given time. Do you agree with this proposal?	yes - I agree with 5-year budgets set 10-15 years in advance, so that 3 are in effect at all times.
Q6 - Q7. Should the Government be able to alter emissions budgets?	No - emissions budgets should not be altered in response to “economic changes” as this undermines their long-term certainty. However, the ability to revise budgets in light of major changes in scientific understanding or international agreements should be permitted.

<p>Q8. Do you agree with the proposed considerations that the Government and the Climate Commission will need to take into account when advising on and setting budgets?</p>	<p>I agree that the Government and the Climate Commission should take the following factors into consideration when advising on and setting budgets:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • scientific knowledge regarding climate change • technology relevant to climate change • economic circumstances and the likely impact of a decision on the economy, as well as the competitiveness of particular sectors of the economy • fiscal circumstances and the likely impact of the decision on taxation, public spending and public borrowing • social circumstances and the likely impact of a decision on fuel poverty • energy policy and the likely impact of a decision on energy supplies and the carbon and energy intensity of the economy.
<p>Q9. Should the Zero Carbon Bill require Governments to set out plans within a certain timeframe to achieve the emissions budgets?</p>	<p>Yes - we must learn from the mistakes of the UK's Climate Change Act and specify a strict time frame for producing a plan. If there is uncertainty then we should err on the side of caution.</p>
<p>Q10. What are the most important issues for the Government to consider in setting plans to meet budgets? For example, who do we need to work with, what else needs to be considered?</p>	<p>The Government's policy plans to meet emission budgets should be comprehensive, fair, cost-effective, environmentally sustainable, and reflect a commitment to Te Tiriti o Waitangi. The government should engage with everyone, and there should be all hands on deck for MPs to discuss and engage their constituencies on this subject to explain what needs to happen, and the options that are being worked through. It is very important to ensure that noone feels left behind. It would also be necessary if it may mean an economic recession to consider how home owners/ business owners/ everyone can get through negative equity, business/employment challenges and be able to contribute and feel safe. Ensuring home and food security will be key - this may have some ramifications internationally and it is important then for New Zealand to manage this situation so New Zealand can be identified as one of a group of leaders in this area, and not vulnerable.</p>
<p>Q11. The Government has proposed that the Climate Change Commission advises on and monitors New Zealand's progress towards its goals. Do you agree with these functions?</p>	<p>Yes - the Commission should not be a decision-making body.</p>
<p>Q12. What role do you think the Climate Change Commission should have in relation to the New Zealand Emissions Trading Scheme (NZ ETS)?</p>	<p>The Commission should advise the Government on policy settings in the NZ ETS. It should not make decisions itself with respect to the number of units available in the NZ ETS, or its implementation.</p>
<p>Q13. The Government has proposed that Climate Change Commissioners need to have a range of essential and desirable expertise. Do you agree with the proposed expertise?</p>	<p>I agree with the following collective expertise:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • climate change policy (including emissions trading) • resource economics and impacts (including social impacts, labour markets and distribution) • te Tiriti o Waitangi, te reo me ona tikanga Māori and Māori interests • climate and environmental science including mātauranga Māori • experience with addressing adaptation challenges like planning, insurance and local government • risk management • engineering and/or infrastructure • community engagement and communications. • business competitiveness • knowledge of the public and private innovation and technology development system. <p>I think expertise in public health is also important.</p>

<p>Q14. Do you think the Zero Carbon Bill should cover adapting to climate change?</p>	<p>Yes. This may require a separate adaptation sub-committee within the Climate Commission.</p>
<p>Q15. The Government has proposed a number of new functions to help us adapt to climate change. Do you agree with the proposed functions?</p>	<p>I agree with the proposed functions below, but believe that local councils should be allowed some discretion in how they meet targets so as to harness local knowledge and the broad range of skills of people across the country:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a national climate change risk assessment • a national adaptation plan • regular review of progress towards implementing the national adaptation plan • an adaptation reporting power
<p>Q16. Should the Government explore setting up a targeted adaptation reporting power that could see some organisations share information on their exposure to climate change risks?</p>	<p>Yes</p>
<p>Further comments</p>	<p>Please support the low carbon initiatives of local communities/ cities low. There does not need to be one highly complex blueprint for this. A carbon ration will increase equality, and give us a clear goal and fair level playing field. Legislation to make large manufacturers responsible for their packaging, and obsolete/broken products would be extremely helpful. The Auckland Unitary Plan consultation indicated that residents wanted a more compact city - this would also be a lower carbon city as there would be less car travel (and allow those on lower incomes being able to fully participate in city life). Pressure to open up more land for building on good farm land ran counter to local aims. More support from the government for cities and local communities to shape their own low carbon future would be really appreciated.</p>