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| A climate law like the Zero Carbon Act is important because... | the climate is changing, more rapidly than predicted, with adverse effects on the lives of people everywhere, but especially in more densely populated countries. The mean temperature has risen, rainfall can no longer be depended on for livelihoods, animal survival and agriculture. Wars get fought over land, refugees are forced to leave their homes, and the world is not as welcoming as we all hoped. We all have a duty to live sustainably, without damaging our planet any further. We can only do that by reducing our own carbon emissions drastically, so a government law will help immensely to bring this about. |
| Long-term target | 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. |
| Climate Commission | I support the establishment of an independent Climate Commission that is made up of experts and provides advice, but does not make final decisions. |
| Adaptation | I support a plan for adaptation, one that is understandable and viable, being included in the Zero Carbon Act. |
| Climate justice | 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. |
| Further comments | I hope plenty of New Zealanders take the time and trouble to send in a submission on this matter, so crucial to our survival as a species, and the future of the planet and all life on it. |