A climate law like the Zero Carbon Act is important because...

Climate Change is real, let’s pause for a moment and realise that the debate surrounding this issue is over, and should have been resolved over 30 years ago. A lost opportunity back then, which makes the Zero Carbon Act so necessary in 2018. Though New Zealand is a small carbon polluting country, we do produce. But enabling this Act to proceed is not only about curbing our emissions but it is about creating opportunities for New Zealand and New Zealand businesses. If given the right frame work, businesses can set their own targets for cutting back on inefficient systems and strive for creating new opportunities in the future. Allowing New Zealand Inc to become a world leader in the green revolution and to create whole new industries which will replace industries directly affected by carbon laws. There is no better time to seize the opportunity than right now.

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 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