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A climate law like the Zero Carbon Act is important because...	We must act decisively while there is still time to control extreme temperature rise above 2 degrees, to avoid the calamitous effect this would have for people and planet. Although New Zealand is small all nations must act now to avert disaster. We need to plan to parachute, not crash land.
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 facilitators, and provides advice, but does not make final decisions. I would like the Commission to be safeguarded by the inclusion of the need for two-thirds of parliament to agree to its abolition. It should have the power to audit all Bills, and have the power to veto those that would actively work against the targets it sets. It needs to have an education function and budget as well as for research.
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. The Climate Commission needs to have an equal balance of Maori and non-Maori in governance roles.
Further comments	