<table>
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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>James Cotter</th>
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**A climate law like the Zero Carbon Act is important because...**

(a) we don’t have the right to degrade the livelihood of other humans in climate-vulnerable locations of space (e.g., low-lying countries) or time (future generations), or the existence or vitality or other species (e.g., the demise of species because of our own selfishness is absurd);

(b) even our own quality of life stands to be degraded without meaningful action against climate change, and

(c) current business models at all levels, esp. national and international, are not fully-costed, incl. effects of using finite resources (e.g., helium, nickel), plastics and their long-term effects; this is inexcusable but is propogated by those whose interests it serves, i.e., the currently profitable individuals and businesses. This has to be seen for what it is.

**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**