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

There are no second chances when it comes to climate change. New Zealand’s unique environment is inherently valuable and deserves to be protected for future generations. As New Zealanders we have the privilege of a strong connection with the natural environment and it is therefore our responsibility to be world leaders on combating climate change.

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.