

<b>Name</b>	Sophia Elder
<b>Email</b>	
<b>Phone</b>	
<b>A climate law like the Zero Carbon Act is important because...</b>	I don't want me or my future children to grown up in a world ravaged by extreme weather and air pollution induced by climate change. As a New Zealander, the environment, including the forests and oceans is very important to me and is integral in the kiwi way of life. Ocean acidification caused by rising levels of CO2 is already having massive negative impacts on our shellfish industry, an important provider of culturally important kai and income for our country. Rising sea levels caused by increased temperatures will a small island surrounded by sea like us even more than most other countries and many will lose their homes. I could go on about the impacts of carbon emissions that we will suffer from for pages and pages, because it will truly effect every aspect of our way of life in this (for now) beautiful country. Even if New Zealand going zero carbon will not make as big a change as a larger country doing this, we would be doing all we could to protect ourselves and future generations, while setting a precedent and a challenge for the rest of the world. It is our duty to be an environmentally conscious nation and to help others be one as well. Short term thinking is not an option. We need to fight for our clean, green country, and for a clean, green world as well.
<b>Long-term target</b>	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.
<b>Climate Commission</b>	I support the establishment of an independent Climate Commission that is made up of experts and provides advice, but does not make final decisions.
<b>Adaptation</b>	I support a plan for adaptation being included in the Zero Carbon Act.
<b>Climate justice</b>	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.
<b>Further comments</b>	